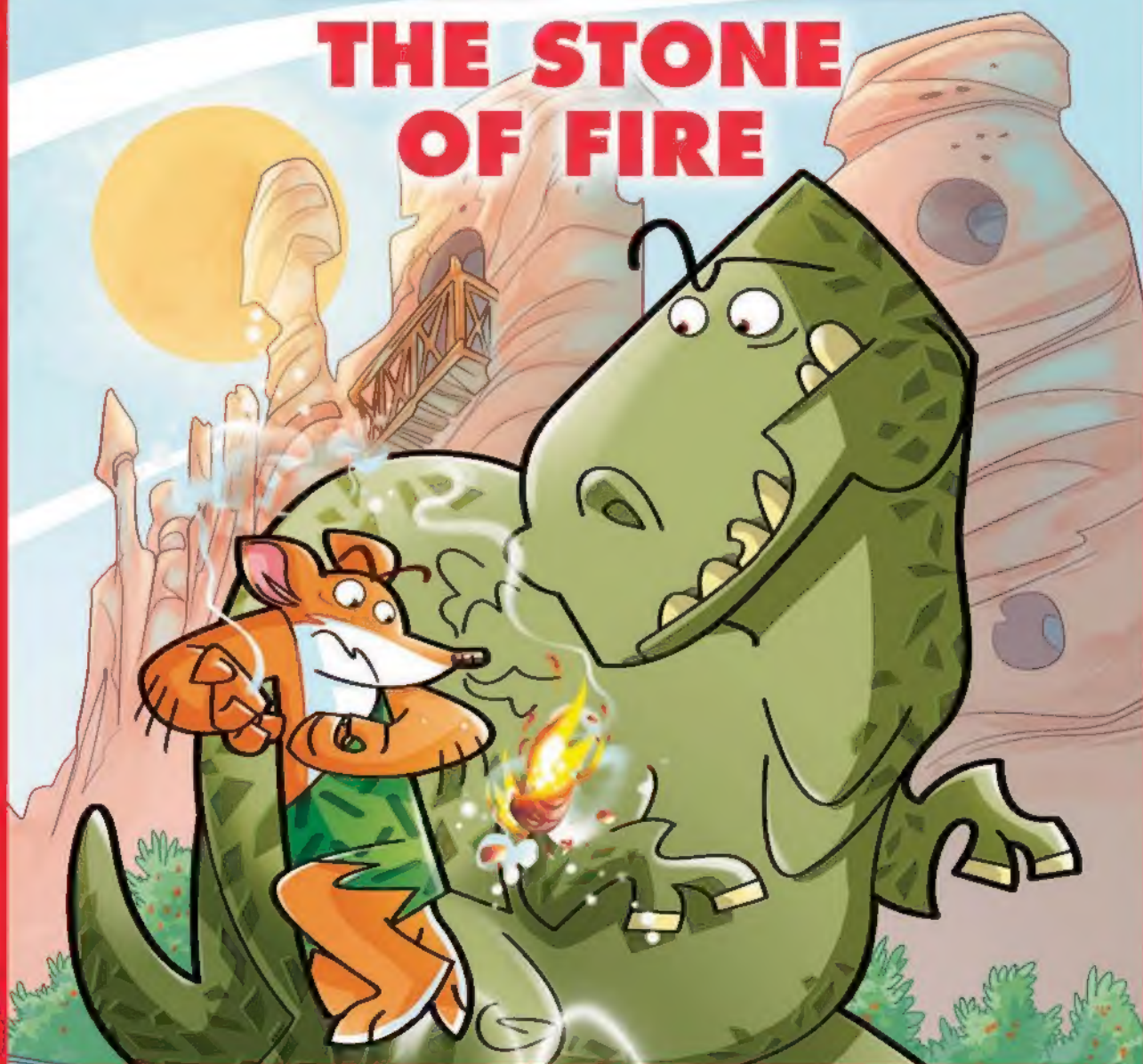




Geronimo Stilton

CAVEMICE

THE STONE OF FIRE



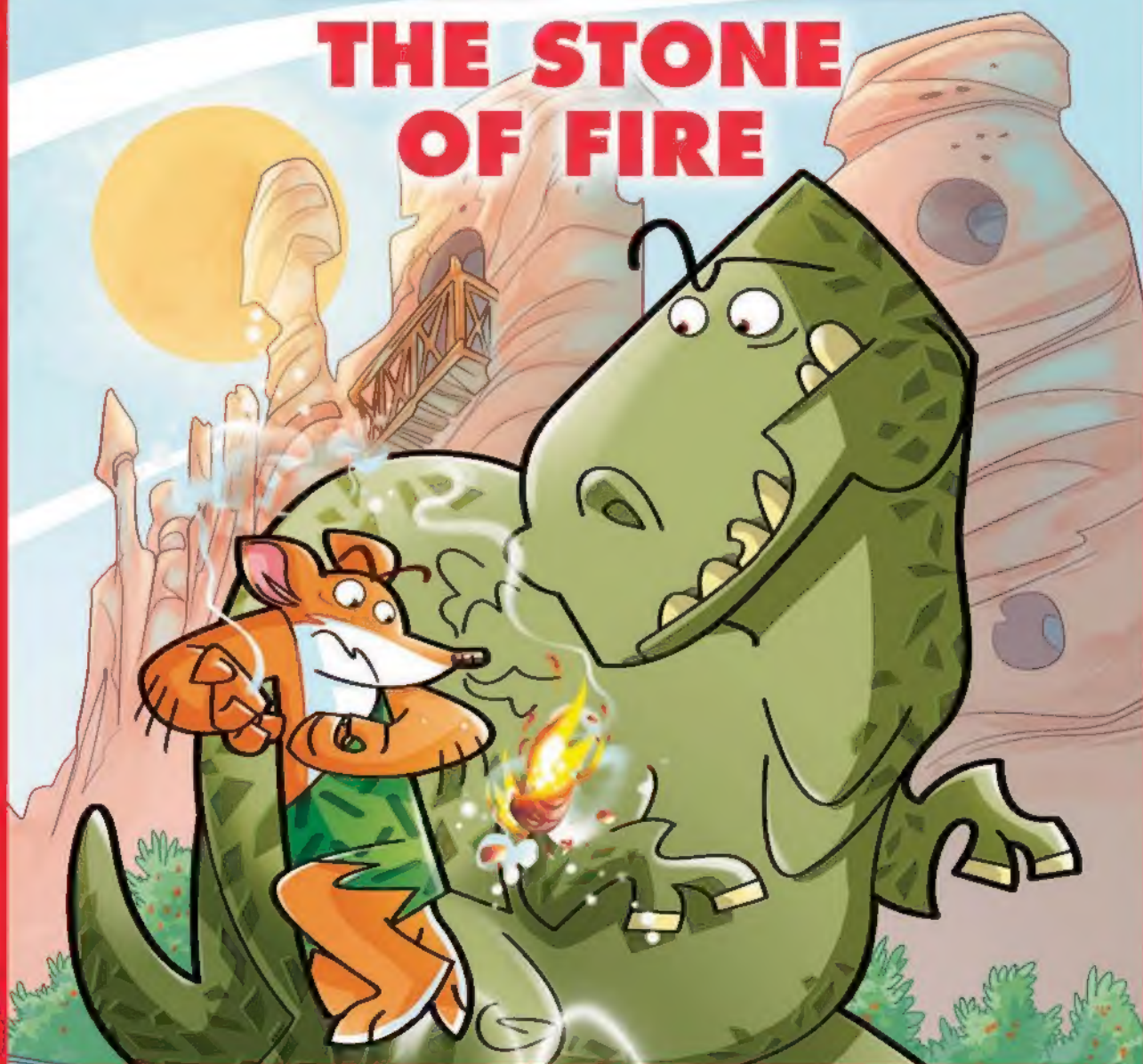
SCHOLASTIC



Geronimo Stilton

CAVEMICE

THE STONE OF FIRE



SCHOLASTIC

**DEAR MOUSE FRIENDS,
WELCOME TO THE**



STONE AGE!

WELCOME TO THE STONE AGE . . . AND THE WORLD OF THE CAVEMICE!

CAPITAL: OLD MOUSE CITY

POPULATION: WE'RE NOT SURE. (MATH DOESN'T EXIST YET!) BUT BESIDES CAVEMICE, THERE ARE PLENTY OF DINOSAURS, WAY TOO MANY SABER-TOOTHED TIGERS, AND FEROCIOUS CAVE BEARS — BUT NO MOUSE HAS EVER HAD THE COURAGE TO COUNT THEM!

TYPICAL FOOD: PETRIFIED CHEESE SOUP

NATIONAL HOLIDAY: **GREAT ZAP DAY**, WHICH CELEBRATES THE DISCOVERY OF FIRE. RODENTS EXCHANGE GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES ON THIS HOLIDAY.

NATIONAL DRINK: MAMMOTH MILKSHAKES

CLIMATE: **Unpredictable**, WITH FREQUENT METEOR SHOWERS.



MONEY

SEASHELLS OF ALL SHAPES
AND SIZES.



MEASUREMENT

THE MAIN UNIT OF MEASUREMENT IS BASED ON THE LENGTH OF THE TAIL OF THE LEADER OF THE VILLAGE. A UNIT CAN BE DIVIDED INTO A HALF-TAIL OR QUARTER-TAIL. THE LEADER IS ALWAYS READY TO PRESENT HIS TAIL WHEN THERE IS A DISPUTE.

THE CAVEMICE



Geronimo Stilton

CAVEMICE

THE STONE OF FIRE



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e-ISBN 978-0-545-52048-5

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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami.

www.geronimostilton.com

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Text by Geronimo Stilton

Original title *Via le zampe dalla pietra di fuoco!*

Cover by Flavio Ferron

Illustrations by Giuseppe Facciotto (design) and Daniele Verzini (color)

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Special thanks to Tracey West

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Interior design by Becky James

First printing, January 2013

MANY AGES AGO, ON PREHISTORIC MOUSE ISLAND, THERE WAS A VILLAGE CALLED OLD MOUSE CITY. IT WAS INHABITED BY BRAVE *RODENT SAPIENS* KNOWN AS THE CAVEMICE.

DANGERS SURROUNDED THE MICE AT EVERY TURN: EARTHQUAKES, METEOR SHOWERS, FEROCIOUS DINOSAURS, AND FIERCE GANGS OF SABER-TOOTHED TIGERS. BUT THE BRAVE CAVEMICE FACED IT ALL WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR, AND WERE ALWAYS READY TO LEND A HAND TO OTHERS.

HOW DO I KNOW THIS? I DISCOVERED AN ANCIENT BOOK WRITTEN BY MY ANCESTOR, GERONIMO STILTONOOT! HE CARVED HIS STORIES INTO STONE TABLETS AND ILLUSTRATED THEM WITH HIS ETCHINGS.

I AM PROUD TO SHARE THESE STONE AGE STORIES WITH YOU. THE EXCITING ADVENTURES OF THE CAVEMICE WILL MAKE YOUR FUR STAND ON END, AND THE JOKES WILL TICKLE YOUR WHISKERS! HAPPY READING!

Geronimo Stilton



WARNING! DON'T IMITATE THE CAVEMICE.
WE'RE NOT IN THE STONE AGE ANYMORE!

CLANG! CLANG!

My dear mouse friends, I hope you enjoy this story. I have spent many hours **CHISELING** it into **STONE** for you!





My ears were **ringing** from the pounding of the chisel, even though I was wearing my earmuffs.

But wait! I should introduce myself.

My name is **GERONIMO STILTONOOT**, and I'm sure that you have figured out by now that I am a cavemouse. I live in the village of Old Mouse City.

I run *The Stone Gazette*, the city's most famous newspaper. (Actually, it's a stone slab. Paper hasn't been invented yet.) We carve one for every rodent in the city!

It's hard work, but life is hard for us **CAVEMICE**. When you live in the **STONE AGE**, danger is waiting around every corner!

We cavemice risk our **FUR** every time we step out of our caves. That's why I wrote up my *will* just this morning. You never know what might happen! For example, a



CLANG! CLANG!

giant **meteorite** could fall from the sky and squash me. Or the volcano could explode with **boiling lava** the color of fiery orange cheddar.



Or maybe Tiger Khan will invade with his army of saber-toothed **TIGERS**. Or a rampaging **T. REX** could chomp on my tail or bury me in a giant pile of dung. (Yuck! What a terrible way to go!)





Or worst of all — the **GREAT ZAP** could strike me down and singe my fur!

Fortunately, **disasters** like these don't happen every day. But there are plenty of other daily dangers to worry about. For example, the **MAIL-A-DACTYL** is always dropping letters carved in stone right on top of my head! *Ouch!* Sorry, what was I saying?

Oh, yes. *My will...*

I keep it here at the entrance to my **CAVE**, and every once in a while I make a few changes.

Phew! What a smell!



The Great Zap!



*Watch your head.
Special delivery!*





**I, GERONIMO STILTONOOT,
BEING OF SOUND FUR AND WHISKERS, LEAVE:**

**— TO MY SISTER, THEA,
THE STONE GAZETTE**

— TO MY COUSIN TRAP, MY AUTOSAURUS

**— TO MY DEAR NEPHEW, BENJAMIN,
MY CAVE**

**— AND EVERYTHING ELSE, INCLUDING
MY SEASHELLS, TO MY GOOD
MYSTERY-SOLVING FRIEND,
HERCULE POIRAT**

On the wall next to my will
is a cave **PAINTING** of
my family and friends. I had it
painted by Pablo Picasstone,
the village **artist**, so I
could always be close to
them. They are more
important to me
than cheese.

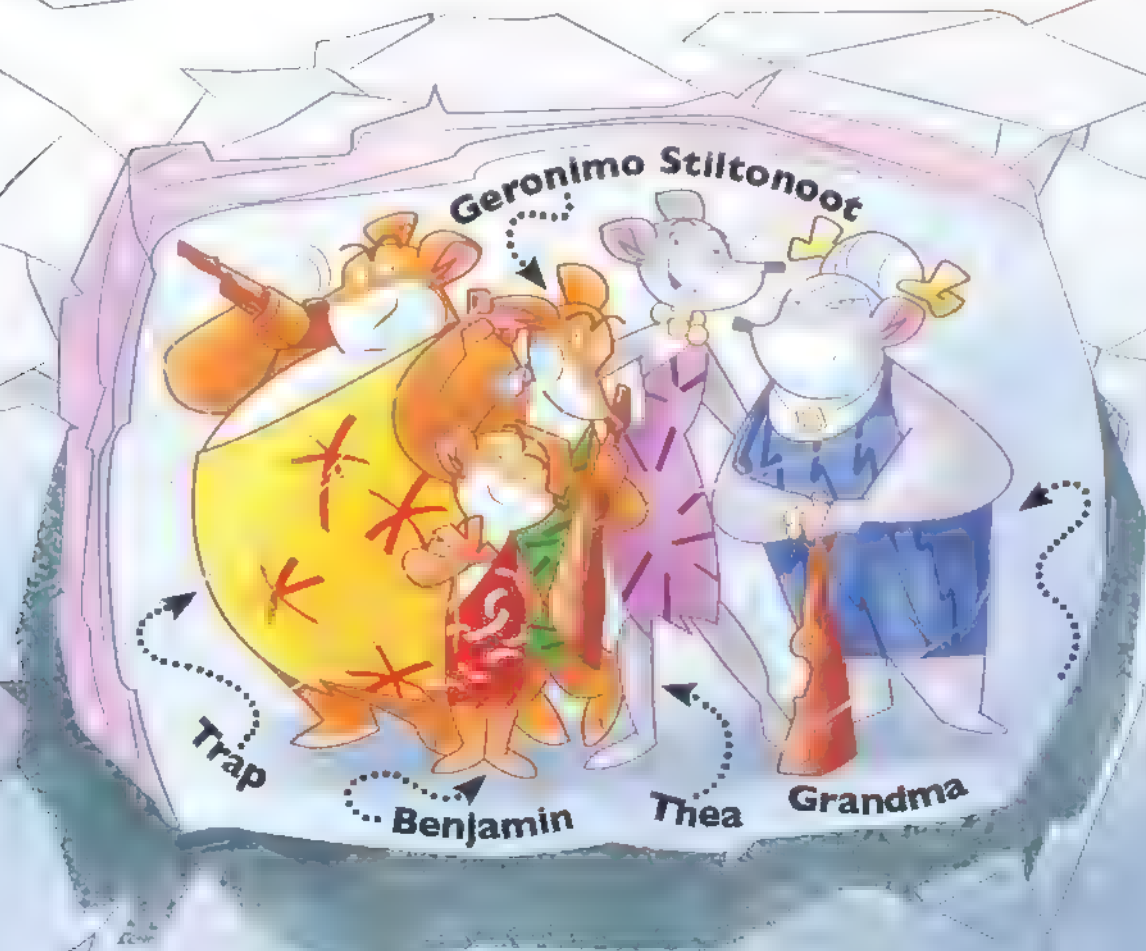
If it weren't for
them, I'd probably
be **extinct** by
now!

PABLO PICASSTONE
IN FRONT OF HIS
PAINTING
Moose at Sunset





Let me introduce everyone in the painting to you. The one with **white** fur shaped like an onion on top of her head is **GRANDMA RATROCK**. She's a very strict rodent! If I spill even a crumb of cheese on my clothes, she's the first one to **SCOLD** me. She says she does it for my own good.





The rodent who's pinching my right ear is my cousin **Trap**. He never misses a chance to play a **trick** on me! He runs the Rotten Tooth Tavern, which is famous for its deep-fried cheese nuggets.

That's my sister, **THEA**, in the purple dress. She's a very lively and active rodent! She's a special reporter for *The Stone Gazette*, and she's always on the hunt for a scoop.

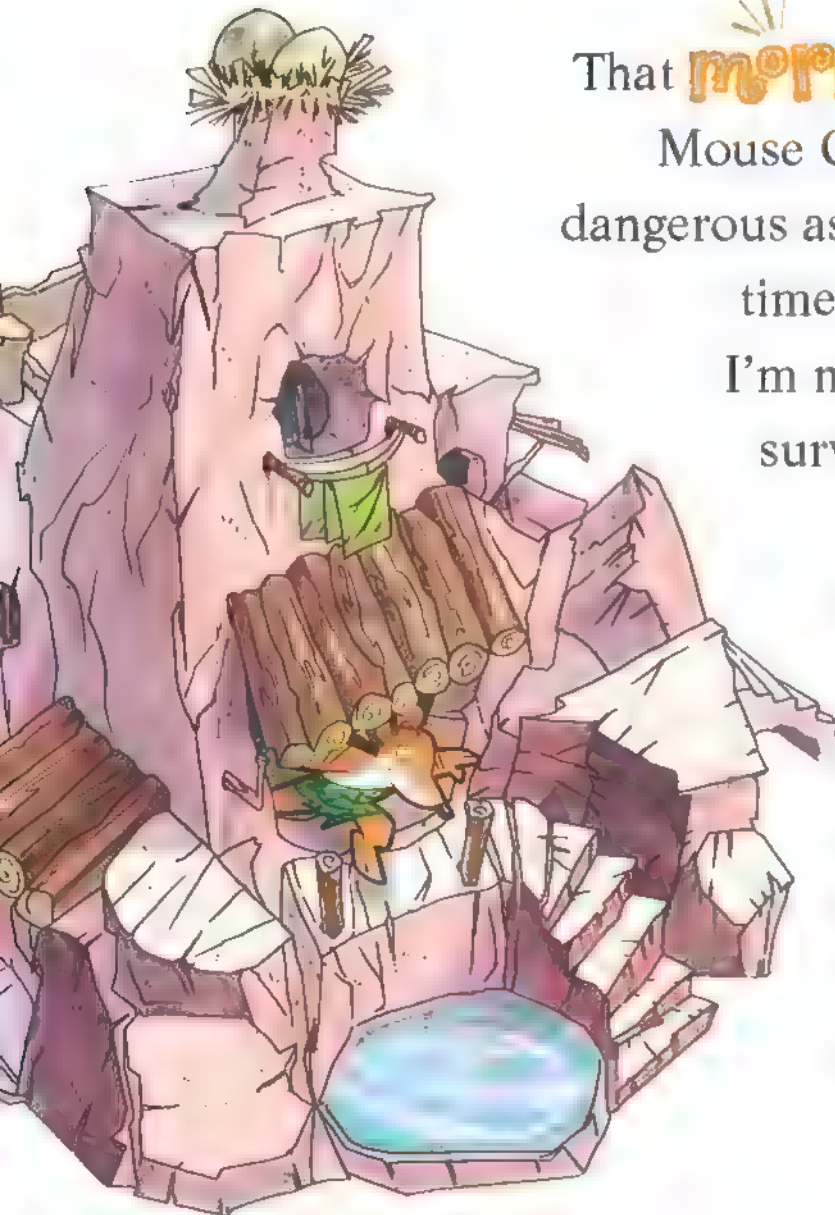
And that **cute** young rodent in front is my nephew, **BENJAMIN**. He's very smart — as sharp as cheddar, I always say.

Like I said, my family is very **important** to me. We are always there for one another, no matter what. That's the only way to survive in the **STONE AGE!**

A DANGEROUS MORNING, AS USUAL

That **morning** in Old
Mouse City was just as
dangerous as always. Every
time I step outside,
I'm never sure if I'll
survive or become
extinct!

After checking
my will again,
I got ready to
go out. I stuck
my snout out
of the **CAVE**,
glancing up at





the sky. There were no meteorites **RAINING** down on me, and the mail-a-dactyl wasn't dropping any **heavy** stones.

It looked clear, so I scampered as quickly as I could to the offices of *The Stone Gazette*. My reporters were already **carving** away at their tablets.

CLANG!
CLANG!
CLANG!

I said hello and then went into my study. Do you know what a study is? It's where you think, think, think, and then . . . you **think** some more!

After I thought as much as I could, I picked up my **CHISEL** and started to carve my story onto thick stone tablets. What a tough job!



HMMM...



**1. SHELVES FULL OF STONE
SLABS**

2. CHISEL ROOM

3. PREHISTORIC WATER COOLER

4. CARVING TOOLS

5. EDITORS' DESKS

6. COLOR-PRINTING PELICANS

7. GERONIMO'S STUDY

That same morning, my sister, Thea, had **hopped** onto the back of her autosaurus, a **VELOCIRAPTOR** named Grunty. Even though Thea has tamed him, I always try to keep far away from him. He's a carnivore, and he's always trying to **BITE** something. Unfortunately, sometimes it's my **tail!**

Thea came into my study, and Grunty **bit**

Grunty

MODEL: Turbo velociraptor

SIZE: About half of a T. rex's tail

AGE: Young, but with big
teeth

FUEL: Small pieces of
fresh meat





the cheese-filled donut I was eating right out of my paw!

“Hey!” I complained. “That was my **breakfast**! Thea, I told you to keep that biting dinosaur out of the office!”

“But he’s just a little baby!” Thea said. “His teeth are just little **tiny baby teeth**.”

She hopped off Grunty.

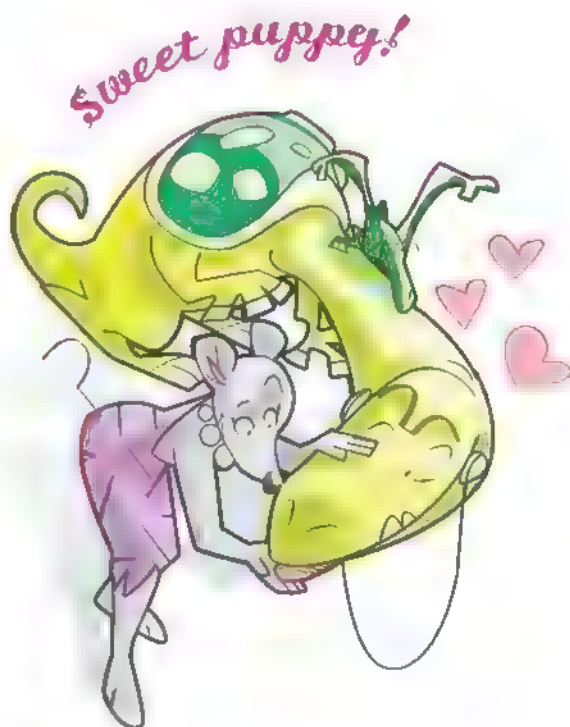


“By the way, I need to leave him with you,” she said. “I have an appointment with the **fur stylist.**”

As soon as Thea turned around, Grunty **B^{*}IT** my ear!

“**Ow!**” I moaned. “Baby teeth? Those are the **FANGS** of a carnivore!”

Grunty innocently **licked** Thea’s paw.





“Don’t be silly, Geronimo,” she said.
“Grunty wouldn’t hurt a fly!”

She left my study before I could argue.
As I rubbed my sore ear, Grunty **CHOMPED
DOWN ON MY TAIL!**

I grabbed my **club** and waved it around,
trying to get him to back off. “Stay where
you are, you **Scaly-faced**, slimy reptile!”

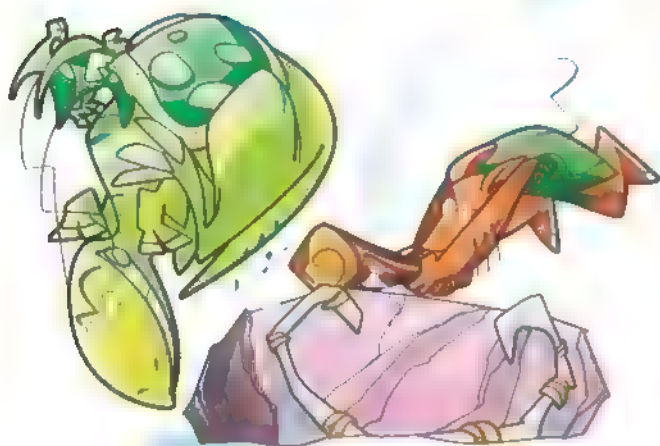
Grunty just grinned and blew a raspberry.
“**Pfthhhhhhhhhp!**”

Then he began jumping all over my study,
roaring in his scary voice, sticking his nose
into everything, and **DESTROYING**
the tablets I had just carved. I ran after him,
trying to scare him by waving my club.

“**Stop**, you overgrown tablet-breaker!”

But it didn’t work. Every time I took a
SWING with my club, Grunty nudged me
off balance with his tail.

Overgrown lizard!



Get out of here!



So I ended up **SMASHING** my massive stone desk, destroying my statue of Grandma Ratrock, and then totally breaking my eggy bank — I **PULVERIZED** my entire emergency stash of seashells!

Finally, I stopped to catch my **BREATH**. I looked around and gasped. **OH, NO!** My study now looked like it had been hit by a meteorite!



I felt just as **destroyed** as the things in my study. All my hard work was in pieces!

I waved my club again. "Get out of here, you overgrown **lizard**!" I yelled. "Thea thinks you are a helpless baby, but I know the truth! You are a **beast**! Now **GET OUT** of here right now!"





At that moment my sister, Thea, returned. Grunty immediately knelt down and began to whimper like a **scared little mouselet**.

BONES AND STONES! What a little phony! Thea threw her arms around him.

“Shame on you, Geronimo!” she scolded me. “Treating a poor little **defenseless baby** like that!”

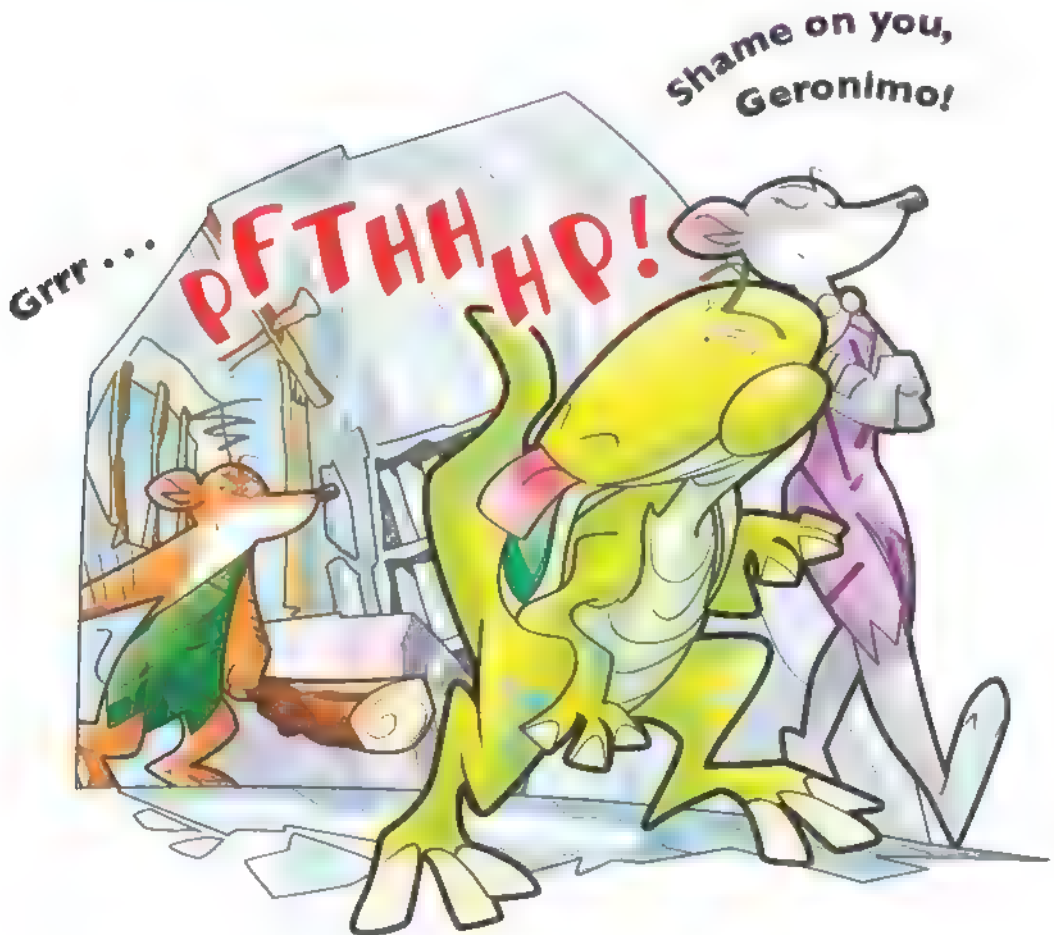
I tried to explain to her that the “defenseless baby” was a dangerous beast who liked to **bite** me and had tried to destroy my things, but she wouldn’t listen. She has a soft spot for that creature. As they left, Grunty turned and blew one last raspberry at me.

“Pfthhhhhhhp!”

With a sigh, I sat down at my desk (or what was left of it) and tried to focus on chiseling the latest **NEWS**.



What an awful morning!



WATCH YOUR TAIL!

When I was done, I headed outside to my own **autosaurus**. Mine is a peaceful, plant-eating triceratops (and much nicer than Grunty). But I was horrified to find a **traffic ticket** on its collar!

I read the message cut into the stone:

OLD MOUSE CITY OFFICE OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

-YOU PARKED OUTSIDE THE LINES BY A GOOD
QUARTER OF A TAIL! YOU MUST PAY A FINE OF
235 SEASHELLS!

IF YOU DON'T PAY IMMEDIATELY,
THE FINE COLLECTOR WILL COME AFTER YOU
WITH HIS T. REX.



Grunt!

Oh, no!



At the thought of the fine collector and his ferocious T. rex, my autosaurus and I **SHIVERED**. They say if you don't pay, you could lose your tail in one bite!

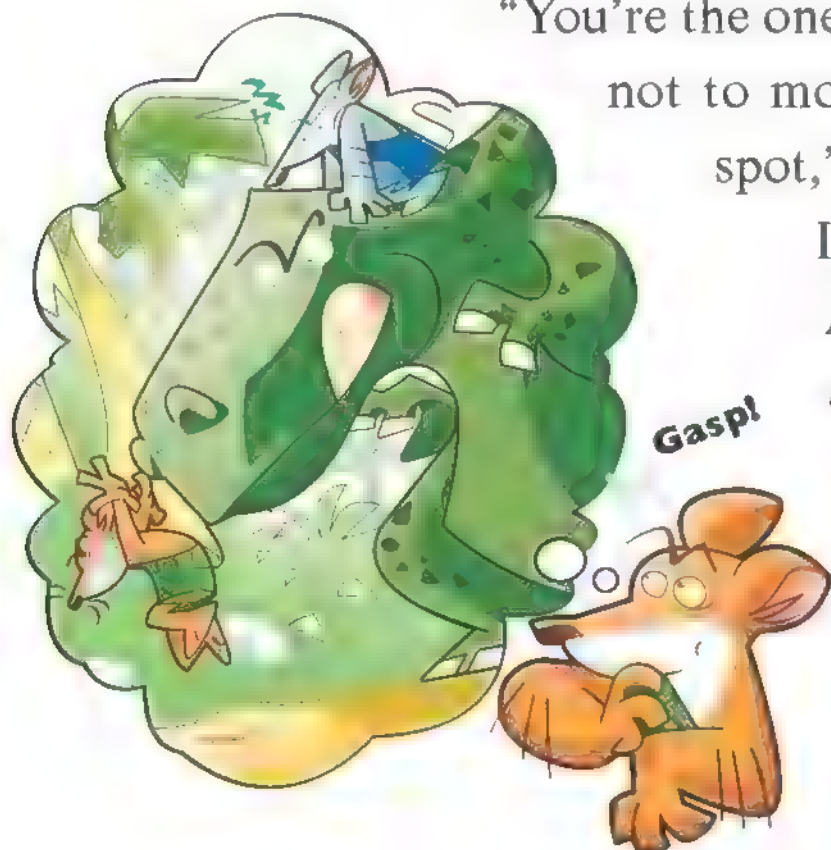
BONES AND STONES, I'D REALLY LIKE TO KEEP MY TAIL!

I climbed into the saddle and scolded my autosaurus. "Why didn't you move before he gave you the ticket?"

"You're the one who told me not to move from this spot," he replied.

I **sighed**.

Arguing with an autosaurus is as useless as arguing with my sister, Thea!



Autosaurus

SHRIEKER

A flying reptile that lets out a shriek to warn other drivers that the autosaurus is approaching

TANK

Full of Superfood, always at paw's length

SADDLE

A seat for passengers

BRIDLE

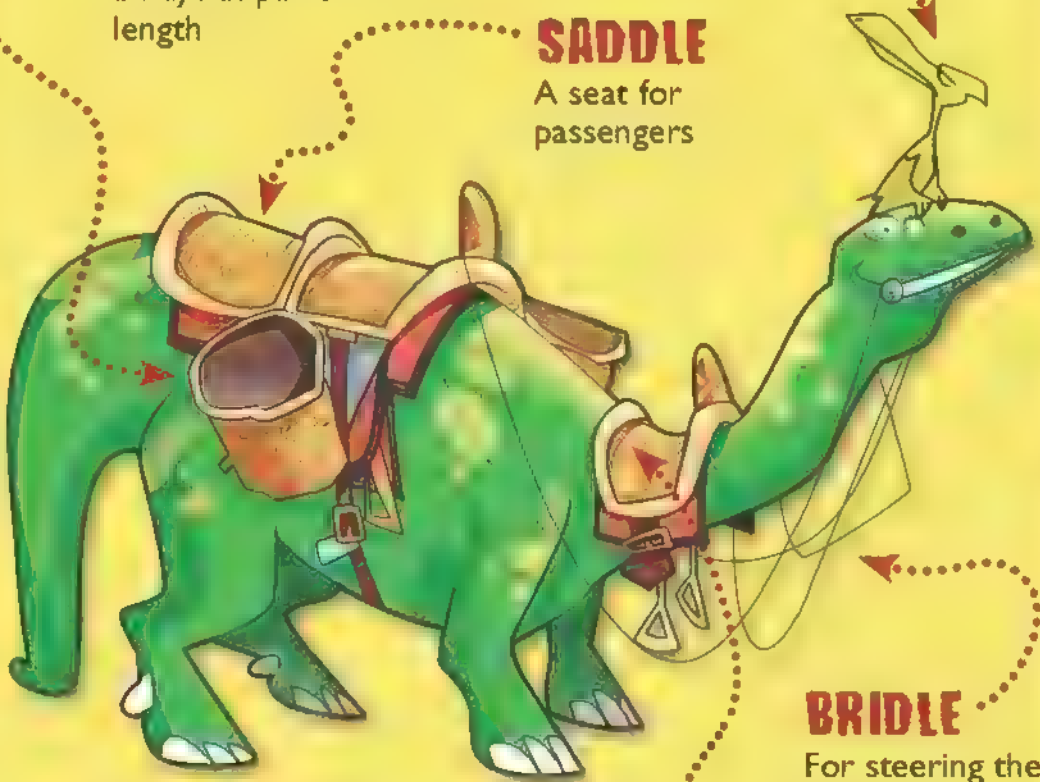
For steering the autosaurus

FOOT POWER

Who needs a motor when you've got powerful feet?

DRIVER'S SADDLE

Where the driver sits





“Well, why don’t you get moving?” I asked a little **impatiently**.

My autosaurus **THUMPED** his tail on the ground a few times, raising a cloud of dust. Then he replied, “Aren’t you forgetting something important?”

BONES AND STONES, HOW CARELESS OF ME!

I had forgotten to feed him his Superfruit Smoothie that morning. (Since he’s a plant eater, he gets all his energy from **fruits** and **vegetables**.) Luckily, I always keep an extra tank of it hanging from the saddle.

“Here you go!” I said, feeding him. **“EAT UP!”** But don’t move your tail, or the T. rex will fine us for disturbing the dust!”

The autosaurus devoured the smoothie in one gulp and then sped off. I barely had time to grab the bridle as he **hurried** down the busy street that crossed Old Mouse City.



Morning traffic already clogged the street. The air was noisy with the **SQUEALS** of the shriekers, **Winged** dinosaurs that perched on the head of each autosaurus. They impatiently shouted, trying to get things moving.



SQUEEEEEAAK!
SQUEEEEEAAK!

But nobody was moving. Something was blocking the road up ahead.

“**oh, no!**” I exclaimed. “Here we go again!”

It was Old Clovis, who insisted on driving a **Giant** tortoise that was slower than cheese sauce on a cold night. He **BLOCKED** up the whole road as he tried to park.



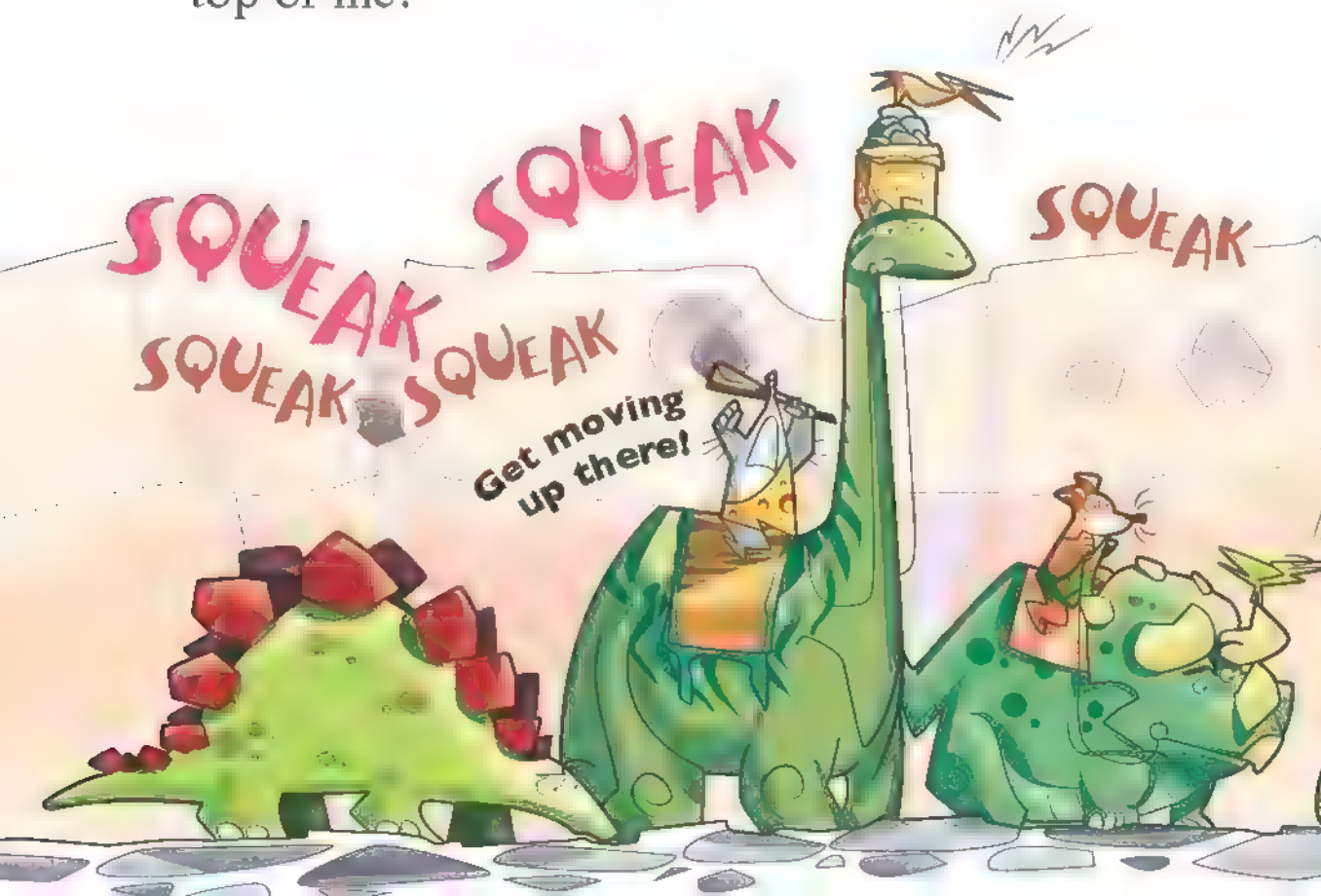
WATCH YOUR TAIL!

My **shrieker** squealed loudly, but it was no use! None of the **noise** was helping at all. But then I heard a different **NOISE** — the voice of my good friend, Hercule Poirat.

“Out of the waaaaaaay!”

he yelled at the top of his lungs.

BAM! He crashed into me from behind and I ran into an autosaurus carrying boxes of **tomatoes**. **Splat!** They fell right on top of me!





Blinded by tomato sauce, I ran into a **cheese** cart, spilling the cheese all over. My autosaurus stumbled and we knocked into a **BREAD** cart. The loaves went *FLYING*!



I was covered in sauce, cheese, and bread. When I wiped off the **MUSHY** mess, I saw Hercule taking a bite of the mix.



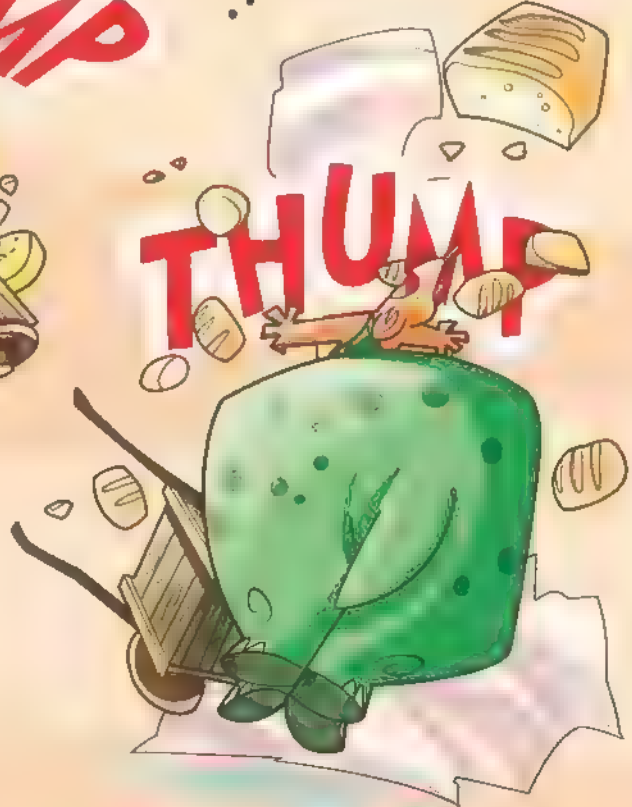
Ack! Tomatoes...



... cheese



... and bread!



Then he smiled.
“Hey!” he cried.
“You just invented
**prehistoric
pizza!**”

As soon as
Hercule said it, the ears of a nearby rodent
began to twitch. I knew he was one of the
spies working for **SALLY ROCKMOUSEN**,
host of Old Mouse City’s Gossip Radio show.

Whenever there’s **gossip**, Sally stands
outside her cave, which is high on a hill.
She **SHOUTS** the news all over the village!

Thanks to her spies, Sally always knows
whenever anything interesting happens.
When one of her rodents hears something,
they **SQUEAL** to another spy, who squeals to
another spy, who squeals to another . . . well,
you get the idea!

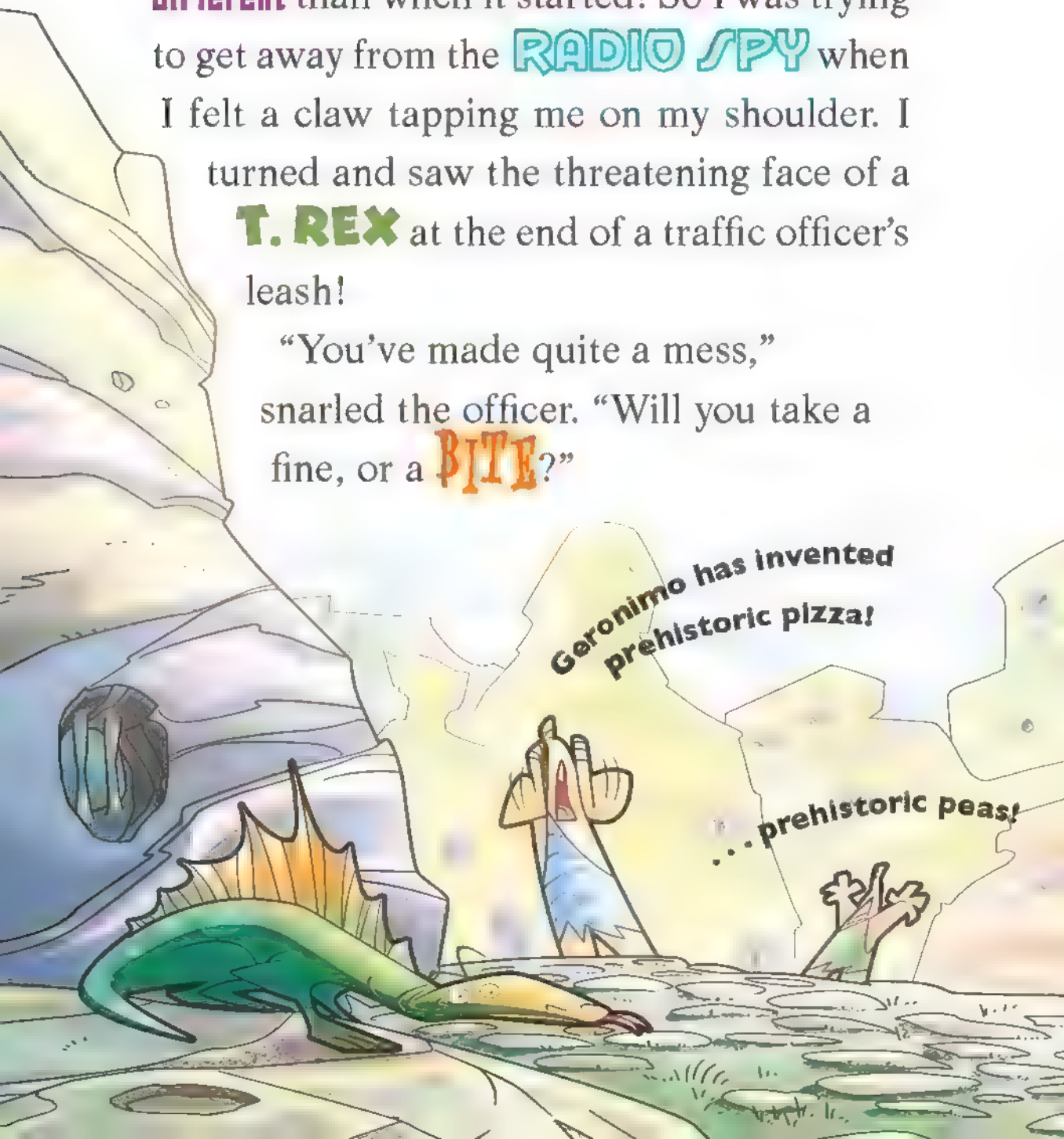




WATCH YOUR TAIL!

The problem with this is that by the time the **NEWS** gets to Sally, it ends up completely **different** than when it started! So I was trying to get away from the **RADIO SPY** when I felt a claw tapping me on my shoulder. I turned and saw the threatening face of a **T. REX** at the end of a traffic officer's leash!

"You've made quite a mess," snarled the officer. "Will you take a fine, or a **BITE**?"



"I'll pay, I'll pay!" I
said, terrified.

**Geronimo Stiltonoot
has a prehistoric pimple!**

... prehistoric people!



SPECIAL DELIVERY FOR GERONIMO!

“Pay up, Geronimo!” Hercule urged me.

I eyed the T. rex’s **FANGS** and quickly turned over my shells.

When the traffic officer left, Hercule went back to his autosaurus.

“What a **LUCKY** coincidence it is to run into you today!” he said cheerfully. “I’ve been meaning to ask you something. . . .”

“**Lucky?** You call that lucky?” I interrupted him. “I’m a **MESS**! And what a waste of perfectly good cheese!”

Hercule snorted. “Don’t be cranky. We have more *important* things to deal with! I need you to come with me. There’s

a problem at the
*Old Mouse City
Mouseum*. This
morning . . .”

Just then, I heard
the whirring of wings
above us. It was
followed by a whistle,
and then a sharp squeal.

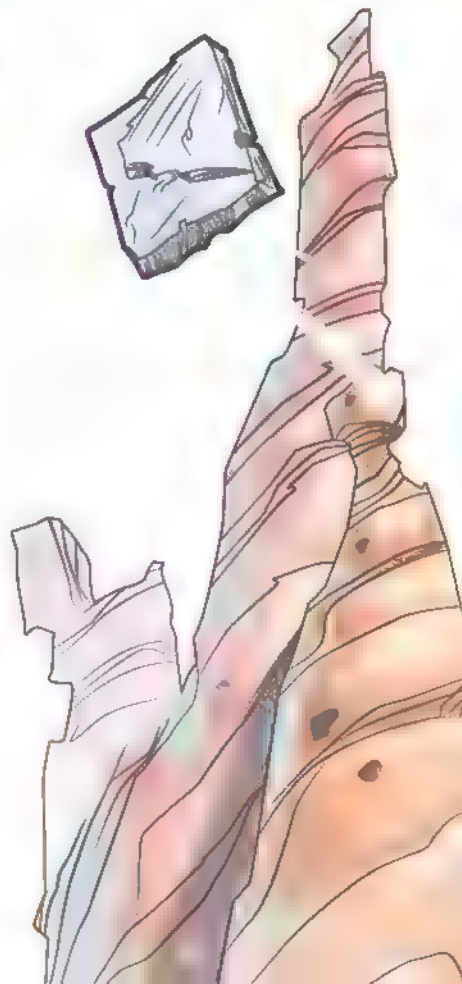


IT WAS A MAIL-A-DACTYL!

Everyone ran for cover.
But I slipped on some
tomato sauce and fell!

The mail-a-dactyl
squealed,

**"MAIL! MAAAAAIL!
NAAAAAAIL!"**





A big stone tablet that would have knocked out a **MAMMOTH** fell on my head. There was a message written on it:

MESSAGE FOR HERCULE AND HIS ASSISTANT
I NEED YOU HERE RIGHT AWAY!
WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?

SIGNED: FERN FOSSILFUR
DIRECTOR OF THE OLD MOUSE CITY MUSEUM

As I read, a **BUMP** the size of an extra-large cheese nugget popped up on top of my head. "**HURRY**, let's go!" Hercule said, grabbing my paw. "We don't want her to send another message."

"But how will we get there?" I asked. "The traffic is still backed up."



Hercule grinned. “The **Subwaysaurus**, of course!”

I gulped. I hate riding the Subwaysaurus. But I didn’t have a choice. I didn’t want to risk getting another **bump** on the head!

So we headed down to the Metrocave. We paid our admission — a slice of meat to the **TICKET-O-SAURUS**, who let us through the turnstile. Then we waited for the arrival of the enormous **worm** that would take us to the mouseum. That’s right — a worm!





Ow! It bit me!



Subwaysaurus

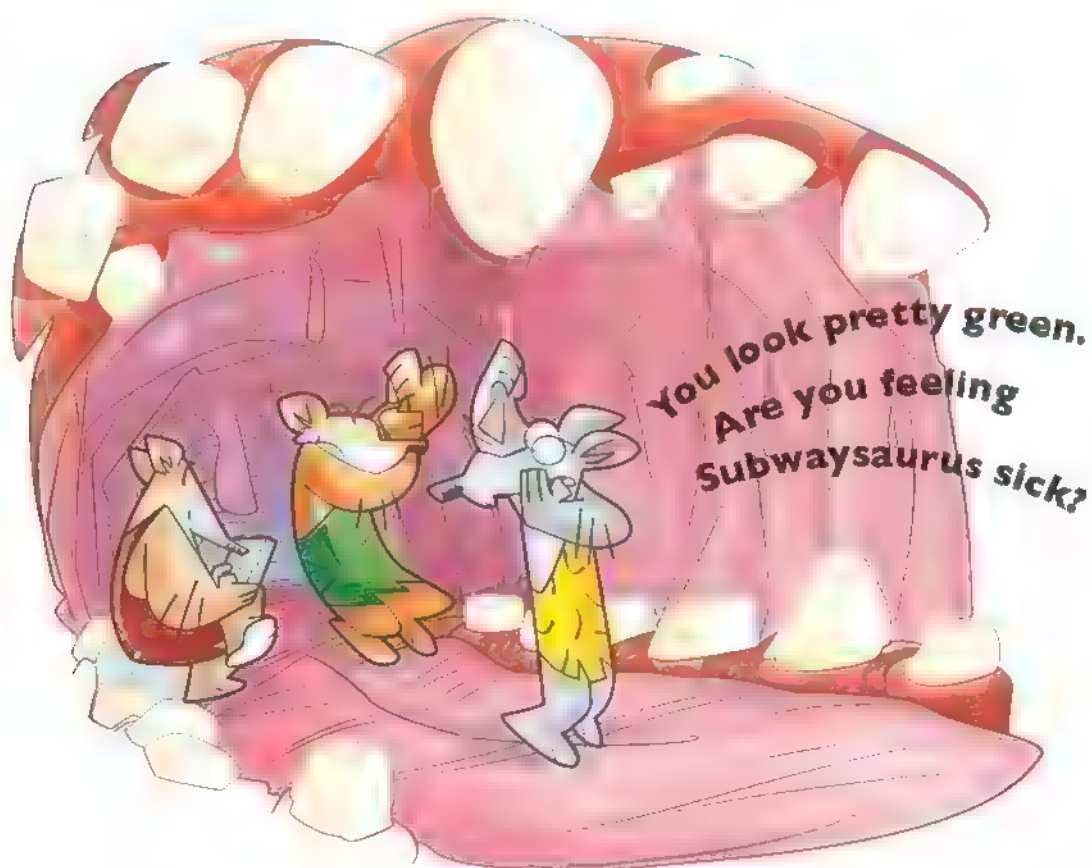
An enormous prehistoric worm that moves along an underground riverbed. The inhabitants of Old Mouse City use it to quickly get from one part of the city to another. At each station, a conductor stops the Subwaysaurus by putting a banana leaf in front of its eyes. Then he gently tickles the creature, and when it opens its mouth to laugh, the passengers hop inside. At the next station, the same process is repeated, and the rodents get off.



When the Subwaysaurus slid into the station, the **conductor** stopped it with a huge fan made of **banana** leaves. He tickled it, and the Subwaysaurus opened its mouth to laugh.

“Let them off!” the conductor shouted as the passengers got out.

Then he tickled the Subwaysaurus again. “**PASSENGERS INTO THE BELLY!**” he shouted.





As I climbed aboard, I barely got my tail out of the way before the giant worm closed its enormous mouth. Then it started to sway **back and forth**, back and forth, back and forth. My stomach started to go **back and forth**, back and forth, back and forth.

I felt **Subwaysaurus sick!**



Finally, we arrived at the museum stop. My poor tummy felt like it was filled with curdled cheese. I climbed up the steps and joined Hercule by the museum entrance. **Fern Fossilfur**, the museum director, was impatiently waiting for us.



DID YOU GET THAT, GERONIMO?

Fern was a tall, thin rodent with a nose as **POINTY** as the horn of a triceratops.

She stared at the **BUMP** on my head and said, “Oh, good, I see that you got my message! There’s no time to waste. I’ll show you the scene of the crime. Someone stole our most precious artifact: the **STONE OF FIRE!**”

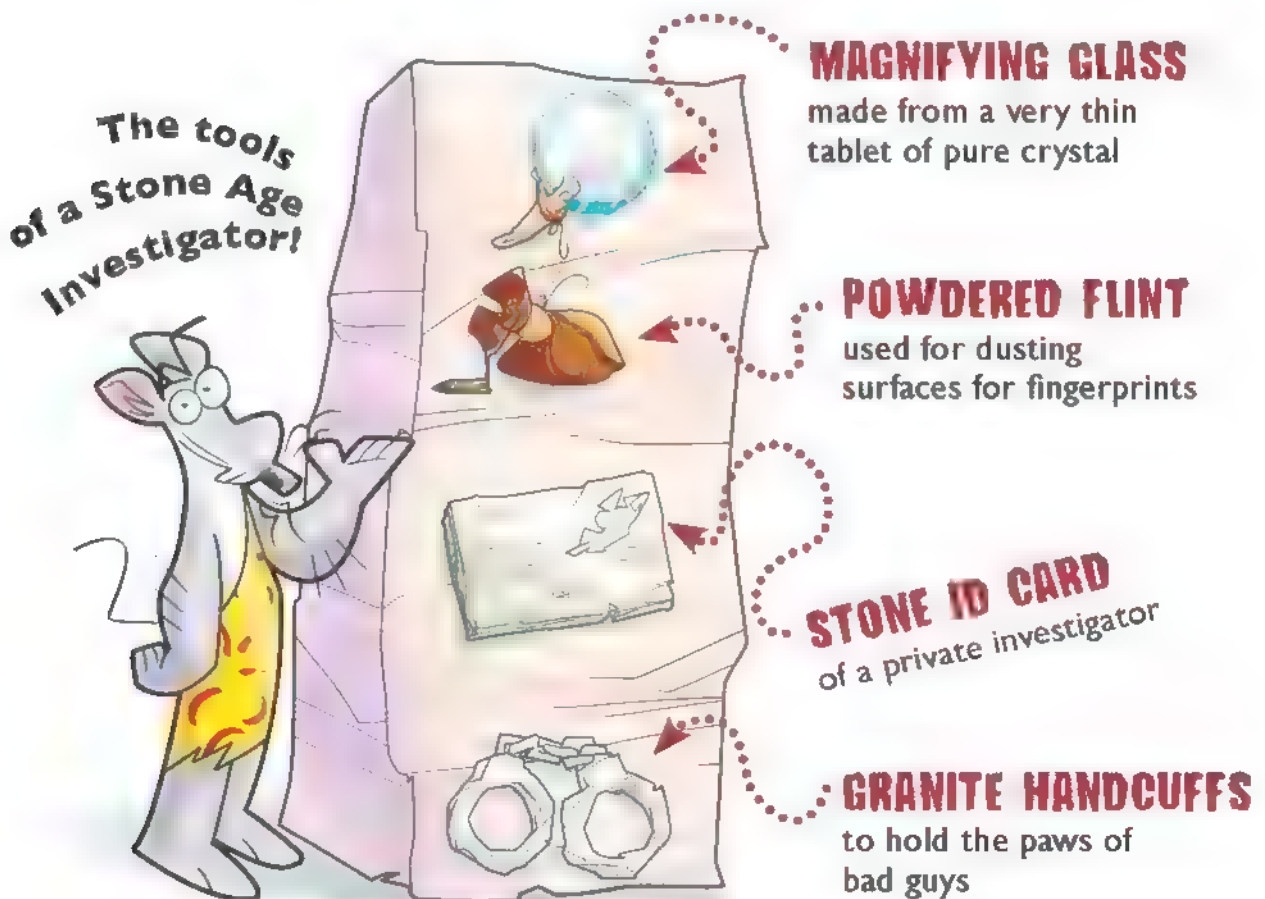
Then she looked at me more closely, her eyes narrowing. “Aren’t you Geronimo Stiltonoot, the famous editor of *The Stone Gazette*? You **look** just like him.”

I was about to respond, but Hercule jumped in. “Oh, he’s **just** my assistant.”



Fern walked away before I could protest. Hercule **whispered** to me, "Come on, Geronimo, take notes!"

Have I told you that Hercule likes all the **attention** for himself? But he's my friend, and I wanted to help. As Fern led us to the room where the **theft** took place, I took out my pocket stone tablet and chisel.





Hercule looked very pleased with himself as he began examining the room for clues.

“Hmm, strange. There’s **stalactite dust** on the ground. Chisel that down, Geronimo,” he said.


“Yes, yes, I’m chiseling,” I replied.

“Hmm, strange. There are **pawprints** leading to the window,” he said. “Did you get that, Geronimo?”



I felt **RUSHED**. “Give me a minute! I’m chiseling as fast as my paws can go!”

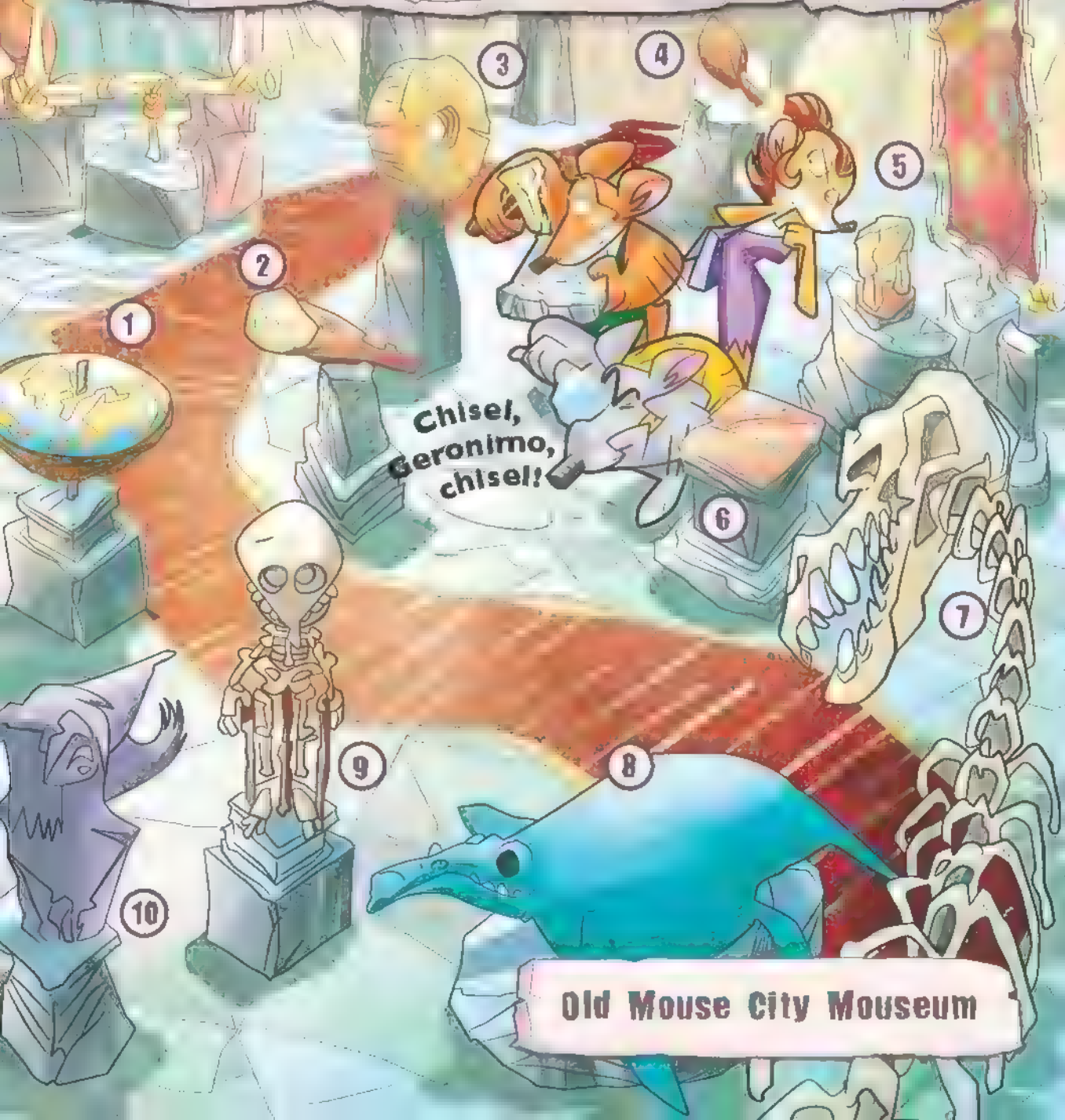
“Hmm, very strange. Beneath this window, outside, I see some broken **STONES**. Did you get that, Geronimo?”

I was chiseling so fast that **STONE**  **CHIPS** were flying everywhere, but I still couldn’t keep up. “What do you think I am, a **typewriter**?” I snapped. “Those haven’t even been invented yet!”



1. Map of the flat world
(They didn't know the world was round yet!)
2. An early club
3. First wheel
4. Fossilized ham
5. Cave painting
6. Stone of Fire (missing!)

7. Scarysaurus skeleton
8. Sea dinosaur
9. Skeleton of the first cavemouse
10. Modern sculpture
(or at least it was modern back then!)



Old Mouse City Mouseum



Hercule shrugged and looked at Fern. “Assistants! They’re such lazy **cheeseheads**. Always complaining.”

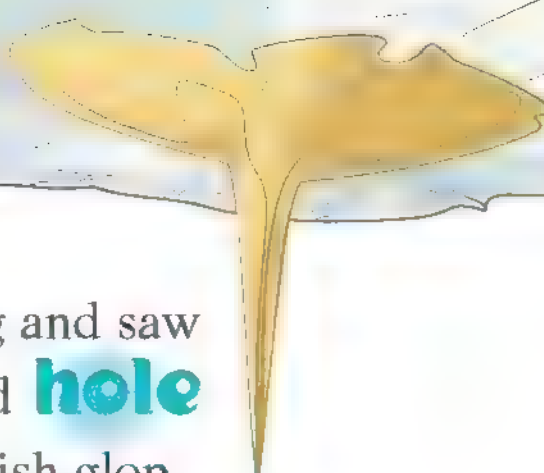
“I am *not* your —” I started to protest, but I was distracted by something dripping on my snout. **Drip! Drip! Drip!**

What could it be?

All I knew was that it had an awful **SMELL!**

Huff . . . puff . . . I’m chiseling!





I looked up at the ceiling and saw what looked like a round **hole** covered with sticky yellowish glop.

I **pointed** at it. “What’s that? If you ask me, the thieves must have come in through there!”

Hercule **shushed** me. “Silence, assistant! Leave the talking to me!”

He walked up to Fern and pointed at the hole. Then he **repeated** my exact words!

“If you ask me, the thieves must have come in through there!”

“What is that **sticky glop**?” I asked.

He stuck his paw in the stuff and smiled triumphantly.

What’s that?





"It's elementary, my dear mouse! This is fresh **dino cement**, a sticky mixture of clay, pterodactyl guano, and gum-tree resin!"

I shuddered. **WHAT A NASTY MESS!**



Hercule leaned toward me and examined the drops on my snout.

"Aha!" he exclaimed. "Just as I expected! There are **FLIES** stuck

in the dino cement. And this species of fly only lives in **Stinky Swamp!**"

My mind was spinning like a wheel of cheese rolling downhill. I was confused, but Hercule was confident. He led me to the roof, where he found some large pawprints left by

felines!



“It’s so obvious!” he boasted. “They **dropped** down from the roof, took the Stone of Fire, sealed the hole with fresh dino cement, and **fled** through the window. Did you get that, Geronimo?”

It's elementary, my dear mouse!



THE ROTTEN TOOTH TAVERN

Hercule explained all the **CLUES** to me again, but I still felt like I was looking at the case through a **block** of cheese.

“So who stole the **STONE OF FIRE**?” I asked, **perplexed**.

He rolled his eyes. “You still don’t understand? Your head must be made of granite! The **STONE OF FIRE** was stolen by a feline. A cat! This feline had to be very clever and stealthy to break into the mouseum without getting caught. And the thief only wanted the stone, because nothing else in the mouseum was taken.”

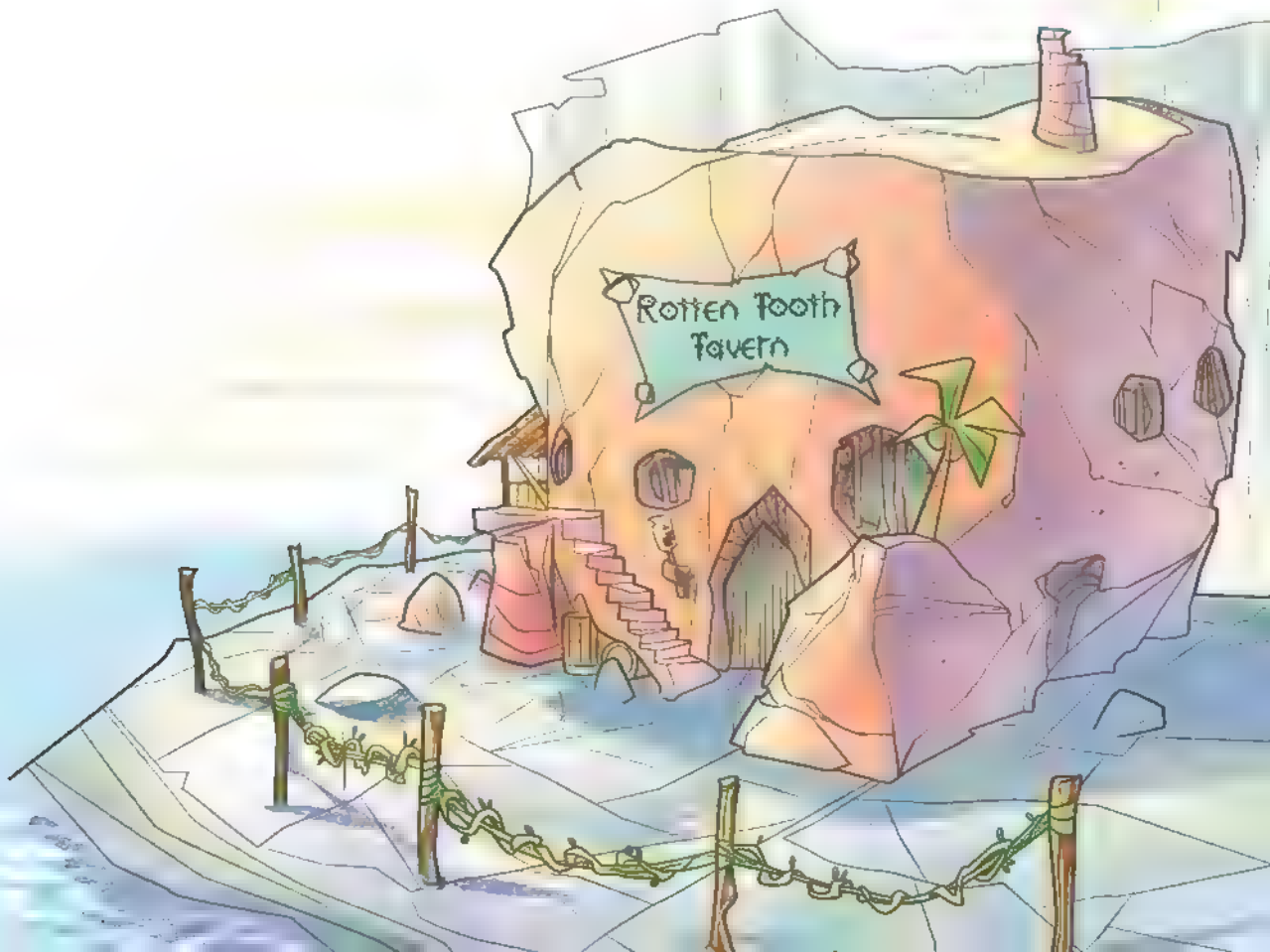
“What **feline** would want the Stone of



Fire?” asked Fern.

“That is still a **MYSTERY**,” Hercule replied.
“But we’ll soon solve it, I promise!”

He began to stroke his whiskers. “Hmm. We need more information. And a good place for that is the **Rotten Tooth Tavern**! It’s run by an annoying mouse who never stops talking. His chatter makes my skull **rattle**!”





“Well, actually . . .” I began.

“That rodent is **obnoxious**!” Hercule interrupted. “You’re lucky you don’t know him!”

I sighed. “Actually, I *do* know him. In fact, I’m related to him. That rodent is my cousin **Trap**!”

“Oh! Well, maybe you can tell him to keep his **trap** shut sometimes,” Hercule suggested.

“I don’t think that’s possible,” I said, shaking my head.

We said good-bye to Fern and walked to Trap’s tavern by the **SEA**. Inside, we saw a line of rodents waiting to get up onstage. The cavemouse onstage told a **joke**, and the audience laughed. But his next joke wasn’t as funny, and they all began to pelt him with **ROTTEN EGGS**!

Of course! It was the **ANNUAL CAVEMOUSE**

HILARIOUS CAVEMOUSE JOKES



WHAT KIND OF DINOSAUR DESTROYS EVERYTHING
IN ITS PATH? A TYRANNOSAURUS WRECKS!

AT A RESTAURANT, A CAVEMOUSE COMPLAINED TO THE WAITER,
"THERE'S A FLY IN MY SOUP! BRING ME ANOTHER ONE!"
THE WAITER WENT BACK TO THE KITCHEN AND SAID,
"CHEF! ANOTHER FLY FOR THE CUSTOMER!"



WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DOES A CAVEMOUSE LIKE BEST?
ROCK MUSIC!

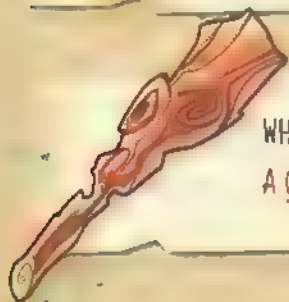
TWO SABER-TOOTHED TIGERS WERE WALKING IN THE DESERT. ONE TIGER
TURNED TO THE OTHER AND SAID, "I HAVE GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS.
WHICH DO YOU WANT FIRST?"

"THE BAD NEWS," HIS FRIEND REPLIED.

"WE'LL HAVE NOTHING BUT SAND TO EAT TODAY."

"SO WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS?" ASKED HIS FRIEND.

"LOOK HOW MUCH THERE IS!"



WHAT KIND OF SANDWICH DOES A CAVEMOUSE LIKE BEST?
A CLUB SANDWICH!



JOKE CHAMPIONSHIP! How could I have forgotten? Every year, mice competed to win the big prize: a super deluxe autosaurus with turbo-charged feet.

We **DODGED** the rotten eggs flying around the room and went looking for Trap. My cousin approached us with his business partner, **Greasella Stonyfur**. She's the head chef at the tavern, and she's

famouse in Old Mouse City for the greasy dishes she makes. It takes a whole **GEOLOGICAL ERA** to digest her prehistoric fried cheese nuggets!

Greasella Stonyfur

Trap



A CAVEMOUSE RECIPE

MEATBALLS IN PRIMORDIAL SOUP

By Greasella Stonyfur

(Remember, always ask an adult for help in the kitchen!)

INGREDIENTS FOR 4 SERVINGS:

6 cups of broth	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 pound of ground beef	1 slice of bread
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped parsley	milk
1 egg	salt and pepper, about $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp each

Soak the piece of bread in some milk and then squeeze out the excess liquid. Mix the meat with the egg, parsley, cheese, soaked bread, and salt and pepper. Mix it thoroughly, adding some bread crumbs if it's too wet. Form into small balls. Bring the broth to a boil and gently drop in the meatballs. Cook for 15 minutes or until meatballs are no longer pink inside. Serve hot, in broth, with more grated cheese.

BON APPÉTIT!





Greasella held out a dish **dripping** with sauce. “Would you like some Gorgonzola fondue?”

“No, thank you,” I said quickly. “We’re just here to get some information.”

Trap pointed to a **SUSPICIOUS**-looking mouse sitting in the corner. “Then you need to talk to Carl Crookedtail. He always knows everything that happens in *Old Mouse City*. He should be able to help you.”

We walked up to Carl’s table and introduced ourselves.

“The **STONE OF FIRE** has been stolen,” Hercule said. “We think the **THIEF** is a feline, but we don’t know who it is.”

Carl looked around to make sure nobody was **LISTENING**. Then he motioned for us to get closer. I felt excited. Did he know the thief?



"Based on what you've told me," he said,
"I can tell you that the thief is a **feline**!"

"We just told you that!" I said, frustrated.
"THANKS FOR NOTHING!"



FLIGHT TO BUGVILLE!

Greasella overheard us. “Forget him — I can help you!” she said. “I heard from my cousin that **TIGER KHAN** has a big invention collection. My cousin heard it from his **dentist**, who heard it from his **aunt**, who heard it from a **PRISONER** who was held by **TIGER KHAN** and managed to escape!”

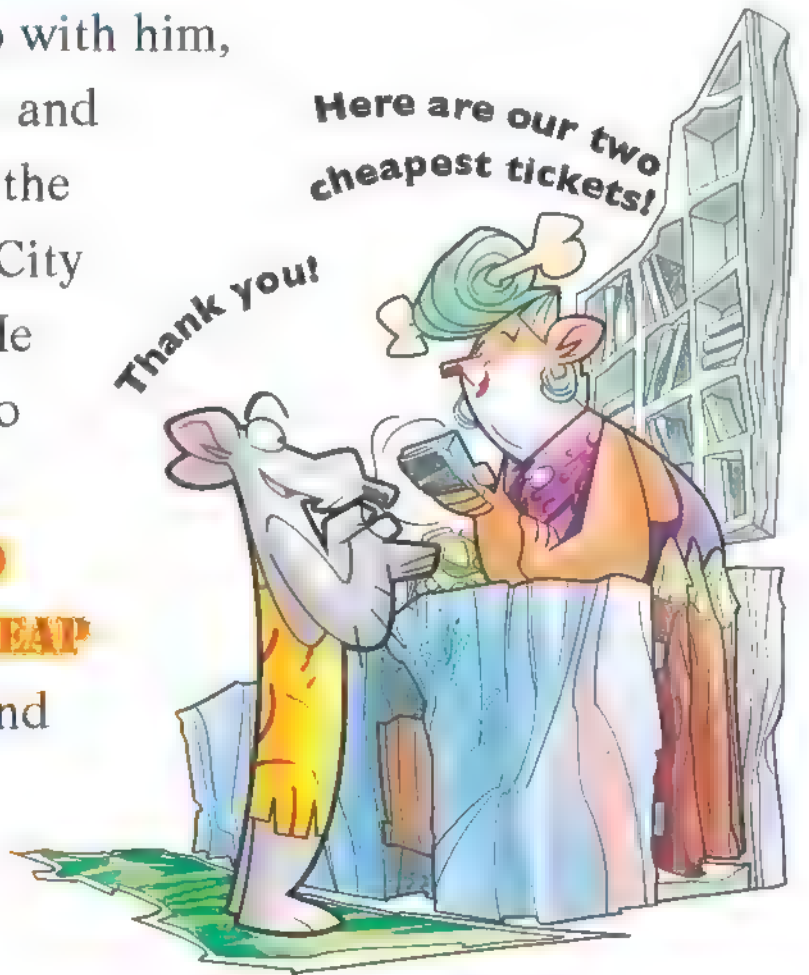
I **shivered**. Everyone knows Tiger Khan. He’s the terrifying chief of the **SABER-TOOTHED SQUAD**, a ferocious tribe of saber-toothed tigers from Bugville. He’s the number one enemy of Old Mouse City!

“I want to go **HOME**,” I moaned to Hercule. “I’m not really your assistant!”



Hercule shook his head. "You may not be my assistant, but you're my **friend**, right? I know you wouldn't let me face the Saber-Toothed Squad all by myself!"

Hercule had me there. We cavemice prize *friendship* above all else. I agreed to go with him, and Hercule and I hurried to the Old Mouse City flightport. He walked up to the counter, bought **TWO REALLY CHEAP TICKETS**, and proudly ran back to me.





“I got a great deal, Geronimo!” he said. “I found two tickets at a deep **DISCOUNT!**”

But when I saw the flying dinosaur waiting for us on the runway, I knew why the price was so low. It was an **ancient, worn-out** balloonosaurus. Its big belly was filled with **AIR**, and it **FLOATED** about ten feet off the ground. Ropes tied it to stakes plunged into the ground, and a **ragged** wicker basket hung beneath it.

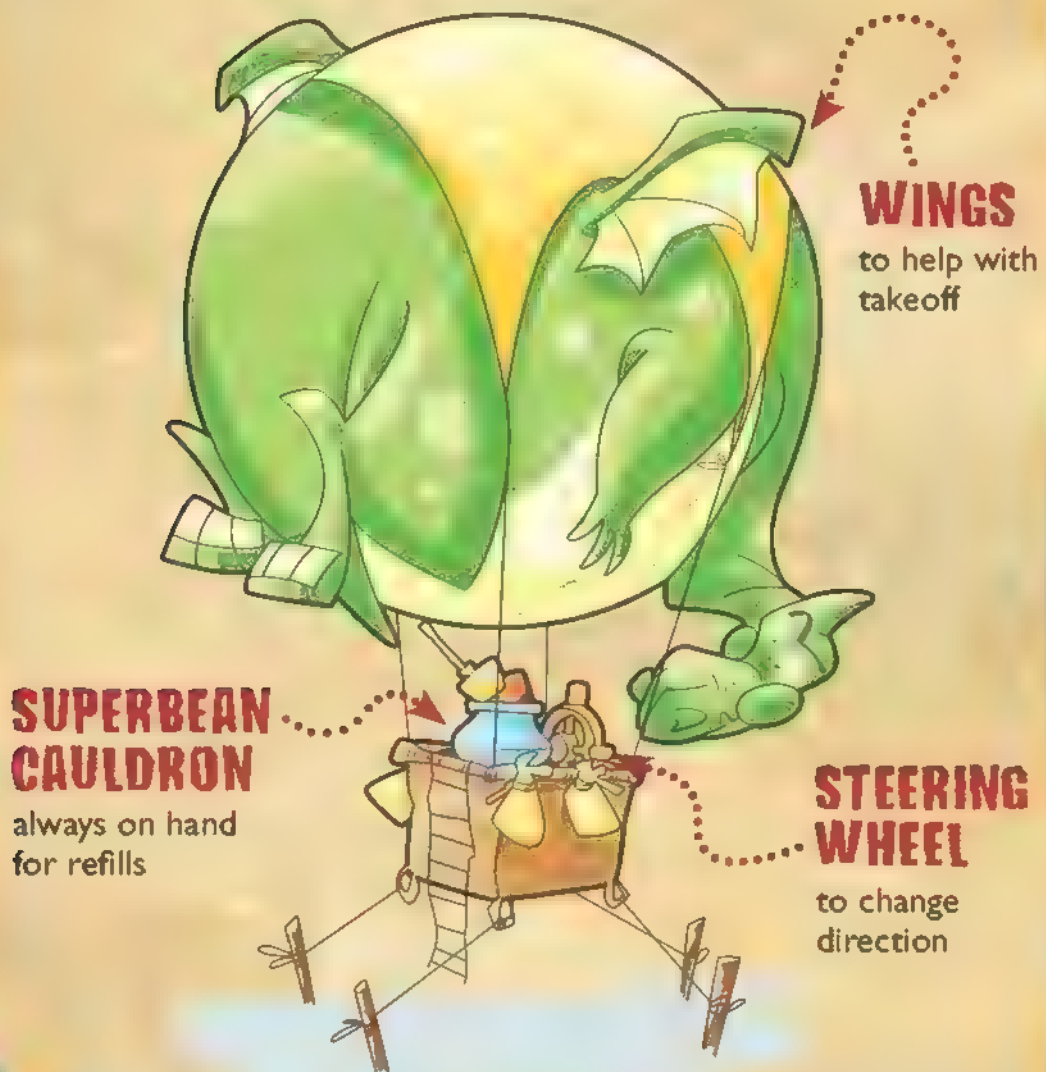
I **gulped**. “Are you sure this balloonosaurus can make such a long journey?”

“No big deal!” said the pilot confidently. “Climb on board. It’s almost time for **TAKEOFF!**”

When I got on board, the pilot handed me a piece of **fur** with a string attached to it and told me to **strap** it on. It looked like . . . a **PARACHUTE**.

THE BALLOONOSAURUS

Before each takeoff, the balloonosaurus is fed with a Superbean Concentrate. Its belly fills with air, causing it to float. There's always a reserve supply of Superbean Concentrate on board, in case the balloonosaurus starts to deflate.





Yikes!



I **gulped** again. “Are you *sure* this balloonosaurus is safe?” I asked Hercule.

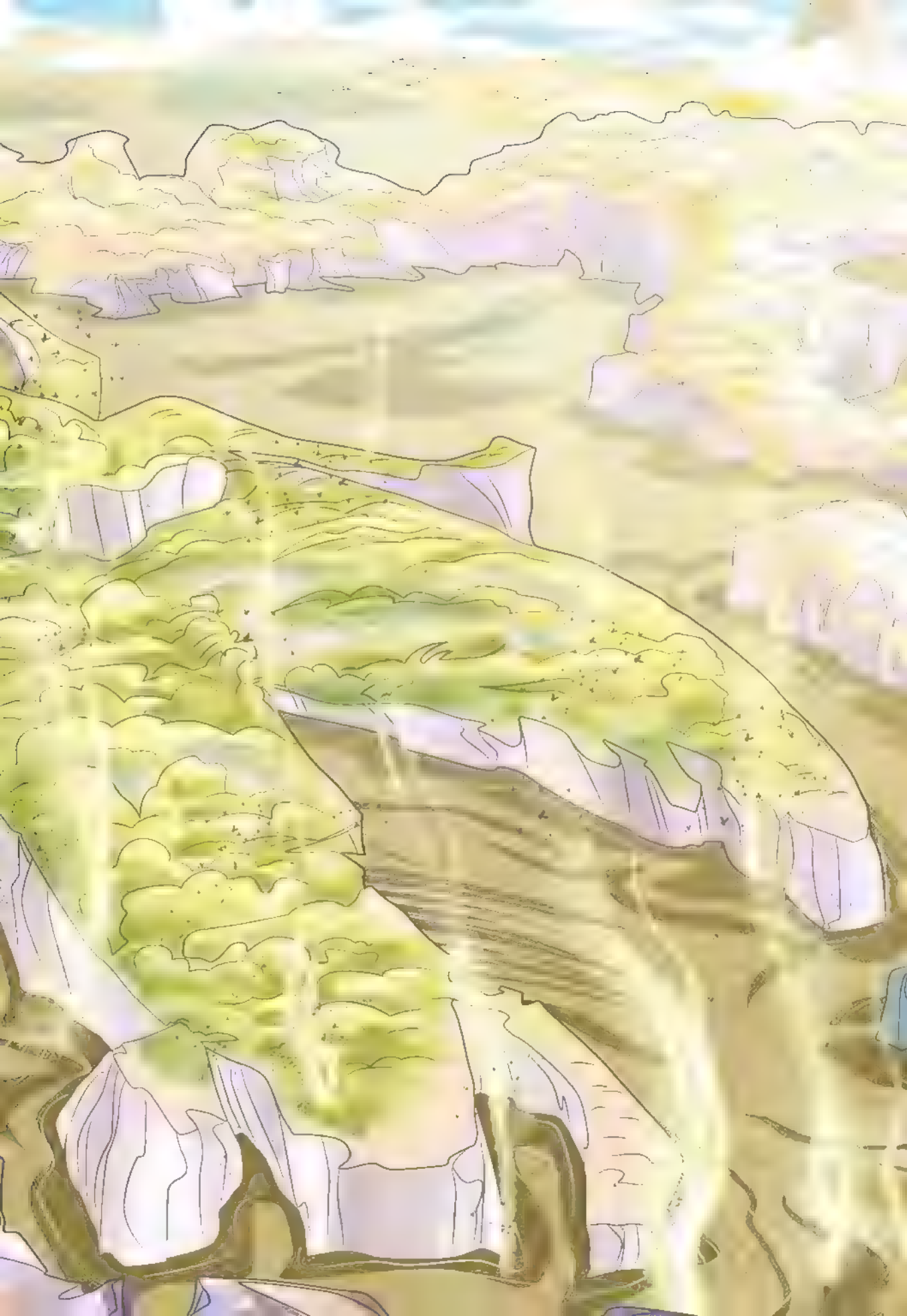
But then someone shouted, “Flight to Bugville!” The pilot untied the ropes and the large animal began to rise into the air, flapping its wings and **wobbling** dangerously.

I spent the whole flight **trembling** like a bowl of cheese custard, but Hercule fell sound asleep. He didn’t wake up until hours later, when a **ROTTEN SMELL** hit us. He opened his eyes, sniffed the air, and announced, “We have arrived in Bugville!”

I leaned out and saw a **DARK** peninsula jutting into the water. A **buzzing** cloud covered the land.

What is that? I was wondering, when Hercule suddenly **KICKED** me from behind! I tumbled overboard as he yelled, “Pull the corrrrrrrrrd!”







I pulled the cord, the fur opened, and I began to *swing* in the wind as the parachute carried me safely to the ground.

But then Hercule yelled, “**WATCH OUT FOR THE POOP, STILTONOOT!**”





I looked down with horror and saw enormous **brown** piles below me, getting closer and closer. But I couldn't steer! **Squish!** I landed in a stinky mountain of dino droppings.

YUCK!



ROOOOOAAAR!

I held my nose and tried to climb out of the pile, when suddenly I felt the ground **shake**. I looked up and saw an enormous **TAIL** raised above me!

I opened my mouth to **SCREAM**, but Hercule slapped a paw over my snout.

“Quiet, Geronimo!” he warned. “That **T. REX** is going in the same direction we are. Let’s hitch a ride. Just don’t let it see you grab on to its tail — it might get **ANGRY**.”

“Or it might **eat us**!” I added. “Don’t worry. I’ll be as quiet as a mouse!”

We grabbed on to the **GIANT TAIL** as the T. rex stomped across the ground.



BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!

I hung on as tightly as I could. What a wild ride!

Luckily, it didn't take long to get to **TIGER KHAN'S** camp.

"Here we are, Geronimo!" Hercule announced. "The camp of the Saber-Toothed Squad!"

We let go of the tail and landed with





a **thud** on the rocky ground. Then we quickly **hid** behind a boulder and watched the scene below. The camp was crawling with saber-toothed tigers with **LONG FANGS** and sharp claws.

EEEK! I HAVE A FEAR OF FELINES!

“Um, Hercule, what’s your plan?” I whispered.

“Plan? What **PLAN**?” my friend replied.

“What?” I cried. “You mean you brought me all the way here without having a **PLAN**?”

Hercule shrugged. “I thought we could **MAKE IT UP** as we go,” he said calmly.

“Make it up?” I asked, almost **shouting**.
“What are we supposed to do?”

“Ssssh! Quiet! Do you want them to find us?” Hercule asked, putting his paw over my



TIGER KHAN'S CAMP



MAP OF TIGER KHAN'S CAMP

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Chief's tent | 9. Generals' tents |
| 2. Chief's breakfast tent | 10. Officers' tents |
| 3. Chief's weapons tent | 11. Recruits' tents |
| 4. Chief's treasure tent | 12. Storage for supply of smelly prehistoric fish |
| 5. Chief's personal gym | 13. Prisons |
| 6. Fighting arena | 14. Giant litter box |
| 7. Army's gym | 15. Stone scratching post |
| 8. Target practice | |





ROOOOOAAAR!

snout. “Okay, here’s a **PLAN**. How about you creep into the Chief’s tent, steal the **STONE OF FIRE**, and then . . . *scram!*”

Before I could argue, he **SHOVED** me forward.

“Hercule! This is not a good plan!” I hissed.

He ignored me. “**GO ON, STILTNOOT!** You can do it! You’re smoother than cheese sauce, faster than a meteorite, more powerful than the jaws of a **T. REX!**”

I sighed and ran into the camp, hoping the **FEROCIOUS** felines wouldn’t see me. My teeth chattered with fear, and cold **sweat** dripped from my whiskers. I’m not sure if I’ve mentioned it, but I am a complete **scaredy-mouse!**

Most of the soldiers were inside their tents, purring. **Prrrrrrrrrrrrrr!** And there was an awful **STINK** in the place — probably from



all the **ROTTING FISH** they loved to eat. I held my nose and kept running.

What a **STENCH**! It was worse than the smell of **MOLDY** mozzarella on a stale prehistoric cracker!





ROOOOOAAART

Suddenly, I felt something **sharp** grab my tail!

“Let me go!” I pleaded. “I’m as **TOUGH** as a cheese rind! I taste terrible!”

I turned, sure that I would find the enormous jaws of a **TIGER** ready to devour me, but my tail was only caught on a **THORNY** bush!

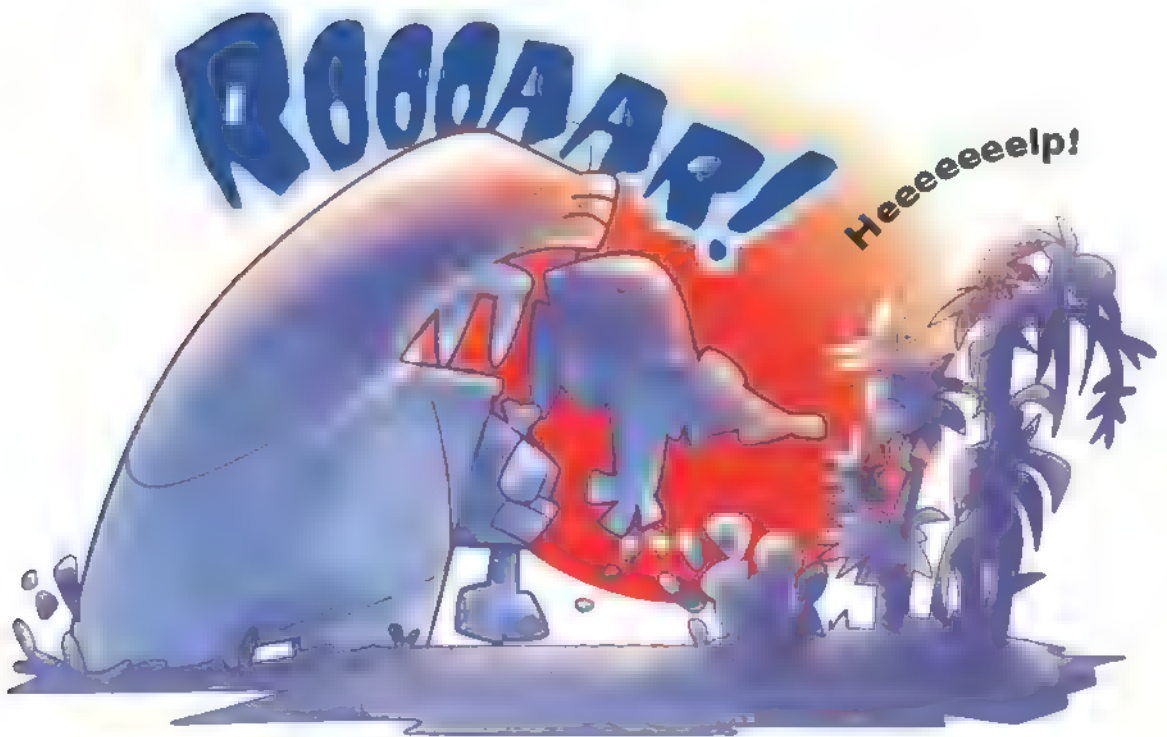
I sighed with relief. I didn’t need to be afraid. I’m such a **scaredy-mouse**!

I started to creep toward the largest tent in the camp, the Chief’s tent. Then a dark **SHADOW** came over me, and a terrifying roar filled the air.

ROOOOOAARRRRRRRRRR!



It wasn't a bush this time! Two **SUPER-SHARP** claws lifted me up. Terrifying **JAWS** full of long, pointy **TEETH** opened wide to bite me. The end was near, I was sure.



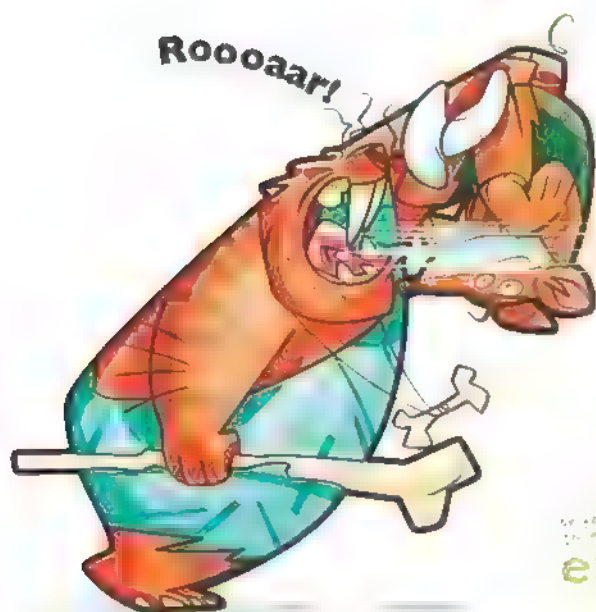
**YUM ...
RAW RODENT!**

“Hey, you!” *hissed* the feline, blowing his awful breath in my face. “Consider yourself already extinct! The great **TIGER KHAN** doesn’t allow intruders.”

I was so *frozen* with fear that I couldn’t

say anything. The tiger took a closer look at me. His expression changed when he noticed my **ears** and **tail**.

“In your case, I think he’ll make an *exception*,” he said





with a wicked grin. “**TIGER KHAN** loves rodents. Especially raw ones!”


Panic set in. “I-I’m n-not t-tasty!” I stuttered. “I’m w-way too thin. I’m not a **meal** worthy of your great chief!”

“Don’t even try to escape!”

he warned. “I’ll make sure you’re the perfect snack, mouse!”



Then he tossed me into a **CAGE** that hung from a pole and locked me in.



Let's eat him!

"You won't be getting out of here until you're nice and **FAT**!" he said with a sneer.

Helpless, I looked around for Hercule. Where was he **hiding**? I looked down and saw a line of **hungry** felines watching me. They licked their whiskers as **DROOL** dripped from their super-sharp fangs.



“Why don’t we **eat** him now?” one tiger asked.

“Yeah, he looks **FAT** enough!” said another.

I tried to suck in my stomach. The tiger who had caught me chased them off with a swipe of his **CLAWS**.

“Scram!” he roared. “This mouse isn’t for you to eat. He’s a tasty treat reserved for the banquet in honor of our great chief, **TIGER KHAN!**”

Then he pushed a big hunk of meat into the cage. “**Eat up** and get fat!” he commanded.

“Don’t you have any **CHEESE**?” I asked. “Or some cheese sauce, at least?”

“Be quiet and eat up!” he yelled.

When he left, I **tossed** the meat into the bushes. The next morning, the **TIGER** returned and frowned.

“You’re still not fat!” he complained.

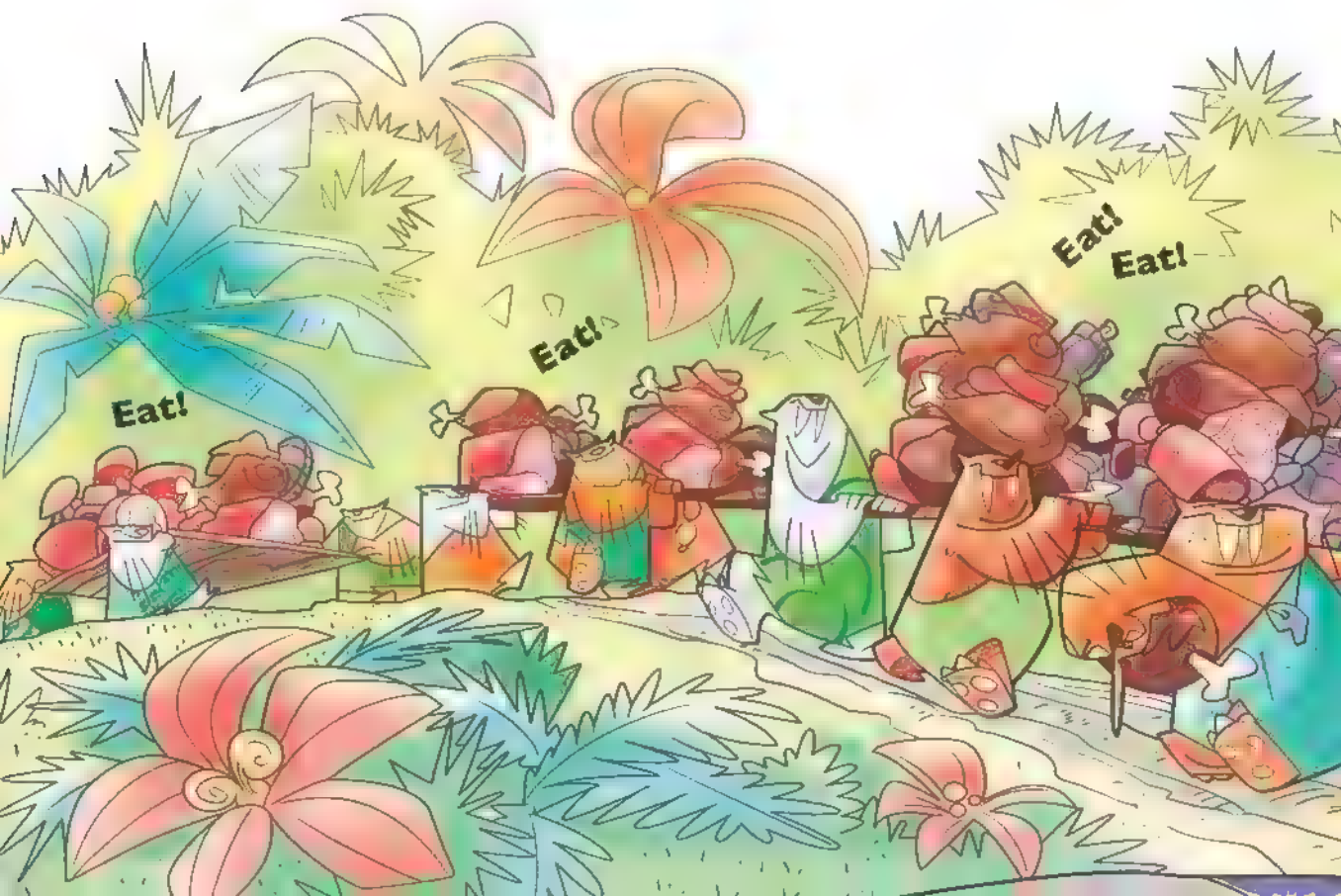
“Bring more meat!” he yelled to the **TIGER** army. “More **FOOD** for the prisoner, right away!”

“And some cheese sauce,” I whispered.

“And some **cheese sauce!**” the tiger bellowed.

“Oh, and some salt,” I said.

“And some salt,” he added, glaring at me.



They brought me:

6 RACKS of ribs!

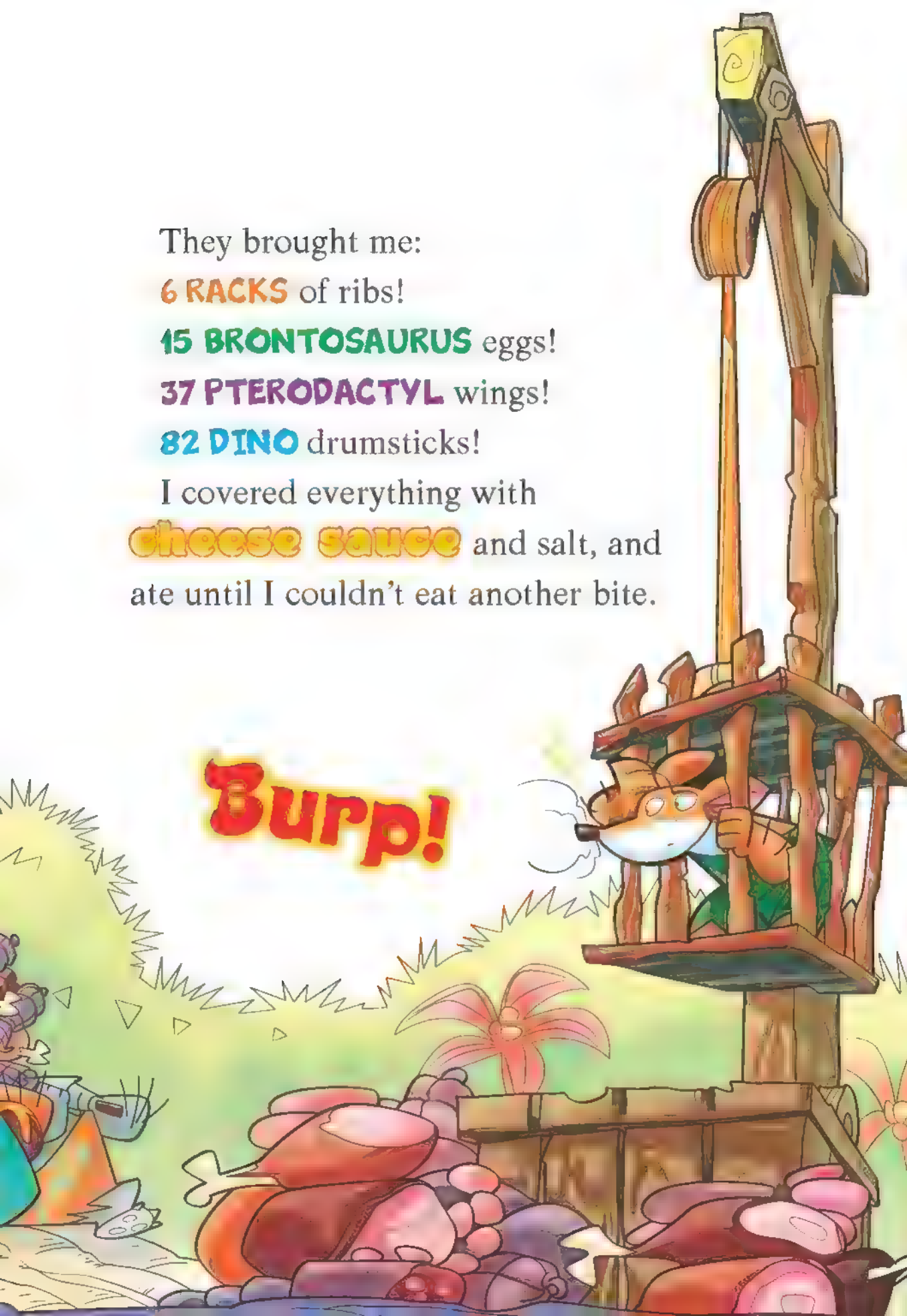
15 BRONTOSAURUS eggs!

37 PTERODACTYL wings!

82 DINO drumsticks!

I covered everything with
cheese sauce and salt, and
ate until I couldn't eat another bite.

Burp!



SHAM, THE STRANGE SHAMAN

Another day passed, and I was so **FAT** I could barely fit in the cage. I knew the tigers were going to **EAT ME** very soon!

I was right. The tiger who had caught me showed up that morning.

“Tonight you will be served as a **SPECIAL treat** for Tiger Khan,” he announced.

I turned as **PALE** as mozzarella. “But wh-why tonight?” I stuttered. “Let’s wait a few more days. I’ll be much more **DELICIOUS** if I eat some more.”

The tiger shook his head. “It’s been decided! Tonight there will be a huge banquet in Tiger Khan’s honor. We are celebrating the **BIG**



INVASION that's happening tomorrow."

"Invasion? **Where?**" I asked.

The tiger grinned. "*Old Mouse City*, of course!"

That's when I noticed the army of felines and **WILD BEASTS** that had gathered in the camp. They were all there to join forces with Tiger Khan! My village was **DOOMED!**

*We've come from far away
to conquer and destroy!*





Tiger Khan had always **threatened** to attack, but we never thought he would do it. This was bad — **VERY BAD.**

One by one the soldiers arrived, and the tigers gave them **WEAPONS**, armor, and **BANNERS.**

I watched everything unfold from my cage. When the sun set, four cave bears stomped





into the main camp, carrying a litter that held the **BIGGEST** saber-toothed tiger of all. He had bushy whiskers and shiny fur. When he grinned his evil grin, I could see sharp **TEETH** as white as snow and as **pointy** as spears.

It was **TIGER KHAN!**
I could see why everyone was so terrified of him. But what interested me most was the object he held in his right paw:

THE STONE OF FIRE!

The rumor was true.
He had stolen it!

Tiger Khan climbed into his large throne and placed the stone on







a granite **PEDESTAL** next to him. Then he addressed his soldiers.

“My brave fighters, my **SABER-TOOTHED SQUAD**, and all my wild warriors, I have great news,” he announced in a booming voice. “There is a new **precious treasure** in my collection of inventions: the powerful **STONE OF FIRE!**”

A murmur of **SURPRISE** spread through the crowd.

“I am still learning about its mysterious powers,” he continued. “But I am certain that it will make us invincible. Tomorrow at dawn we will attack **OLD MOUSE CITY!** Now, let’s begin the banquet. I’m as hungry as a lion!”

The crowd roared.

“LONG LIVE TIGER KHAN!”



The warriors all raised their bone clubs and waved them triumphantly.

The soldiers began to toast their leader.

"Long life and fresh meat for Tiger Khan!"

"MAY THE GREAT ZAP SAVE TIGER KHAN!"

"ENJOY YOUR FEAST, TIGER KHAN!"

I gulped as the terrifying tiger chief pointed a **SHARP CLAW** at me. "Bring me that mouse! I will eat it as an appetizer!"

Two **felines** pulled me out of the cage and dragged me to the **THRONE**. This was the end for sure!

I was about to close my eyes when I saw a very





strange visitor enter the circle. He was surrounded by a cloud of **flies**, so it was hard to see his face. He wore a **necklace** of teeth around his neck, and bracelets made of shells on his wrists and ankles. Every time he took a step, he **JANGLED**.

“Make way! Make way!” he shouted, marching slowly and solemnly. “Make way for **SHAM THE SHAMAN!**”

Even felines know that shamans have mysterious magical powers. They let him pass, murmuring,

“What a strange shaman!”

THIS MOUSE IS TABOO!

The shaman waved a long, wobbly stick topped with a tortoise **SHELL**.

“Make way for Sham the Shaman!” he yelled. “If you don’t, I will transform you all into triceratops **DUNG!**”

The crowd parted. There are many shamans here in the Stone Age, and we all know not to mess with them. Their **MYSTERIOUS** powers can cause lots of trouble!

The strange shaman walked up to me and turned to the crowd.

“I have **good news** and **BAD NEWS**. Which would you like to hear first?” he asked.

Everyone began to argue.



“**BAD** news first!”

“No, **good** news first!”

“Fine, I’ll start with the bad news,” the shaman snapped. He turned to Tiger Khan. “This mouse is taboo! If you eat him, it will bring you misfortune. First, your whiskers will fall out!”

“**NOOOO! NOT HIS WHISKERS!**” everyone shouted.

“And then your tail will lose its fur.”

“**Noooo! Not his tail!**” everyone squealed.

Sham nodded. “And then you’ll come down with measles, a cold, and a terrible stomachache. And that’s not all. If you eat this mouse, you will call forth the

**WRATH OF
THE GREAT ZAP!**”



This news made everyone panic.

"NOOO! NOT THE GREAT ZAP!"

"We'll be roasted! We'll be toasted!"

Even though all of his soldiers were worried, **TIGER KHAN** remained calm. He drummed his paws on the arms of his throne and **GROWLED**, "I'm not afraid of anyone or anything — not even the Great Zap! I am going to eat this mouse, and I'll eat him **RAW!** How **dare** you tell the great Khan what he can and cannot eat?"

"Be careful, Tiger Khan," the shaman warned. "Not even you can risk the wrath of the **GREAT ZAP.**"

"Then show me your power, shaman!" Tiger Khan commanded with a **FIERY** look.

The shaman bowed. "As you wish," he said. "Now for the good news. I know the



mysterious power of the **STONE OF FIRE**, and I will explain it to you!”

Tiger Khan looked interested. “Good, good! Show me the power of this legendary stone, you **STRANGE SHAMAN**, and *maybe* I won’t cut off your tail!”

The shaman looked very serious as he took the Stone of Fire from the pedestal and placed it on a **CRAGGY ROCK**.

He sprinkled **dried grass** on the rock and then struck the Stone of Fire against a piece of the rock. Small **sparks** flew up and landed on the dried grass. Soon a bright **FLAME** began to burn.





“Ooooooooooooooh!”

The felines were amazed!

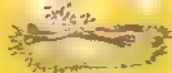
The **SHAMAN** snuck a look at me and winked. *Why would he do that?* I wondered. Then he put the **STONE OF FIRE** back on the pedestal.

“That’s not all!” he shouted. “Now I will

The “Magic” of Fire

In the prehistoric era, fire was often made with two stones: a gray rock called flint and another stone containing iron. When the two stones are struck together, they produce sparks. Those sparks then ignite nearby fuel, such as dried grass or moss, to create a fire.

So the Stone of Fire isn’t magic — it’s just flint!





show you more of my powerful magic.”

He rummaged in his bag, took out a
* handful of powder, and threw it on the fire.

*** **“STRANGE MAGIC NUMBER ONE:**

the Multicolored Flame!”

A strange ~~green~~ flame burst
from the fire, and everyone
coughed.





“And now it’s time for **STRANGE MAGIC
NUMBER TWO:** the Disappearing Stone!”

the shaman announced dramatically. He approached the pedestal and covered the Stone of Fire with a large **handkerchief**. Then he began to dance around.





“One . . . two . . . three,” he chanted. Then he stopped. “Behold the power of the **GREAT ZAP!**”

He lifted the handkerchief — and the pedestal was **EMPTY!**

Tiger Khan angrily sprang toward the shaman, but Sham quickly threw another handful of grass on the fire.

“And now for **STRANGE MAGIC** **NUMBER THREE:** the Vanishing Mouse Appetizer!”

A thick cloud exploded from the fire, creating a dense **FOG** that spread all over the circle.

“I can’t see!” Tiger Khan roared.

I couldn’t see, either. But I felt someone **grab** my paw and drag me away!

THE BATTLE BEGINS

As the **smoke** cleared, I was relieved to see **SHAM THE SHAMAN** holding my paw.

“Sorry I took so long to **save** you, my friend,” he whispered in my ear. That’s when I realized: Sham the Shaman was **Hercule** in disguise!





“It wasn’t easy getting together my costume,” he explained. “And I had to find **SULFUR** for the special effects with the flames.”

I gave him a hug. “Thank you for saving me! You’re a **true friend!**”

Hercule patted my shoulder. “No time to be mushy. We have to escape before they **catch** us!”

I didn’t argue. The **SABER-TOOTHED SQUAD** was right on our tails as we **raced** away from the camp as **FAST** as we could. We went so fast that by the time we reached Old Mouse City, I was **thin** again!

When we got to the city gates, we **BANGED** on them with our paws. “Open up! We’re being followed by felines!” I yelled.

The gates opened and we hurried in just in time. As soon as we closed them, the tigers



arrived, **scratching** at the wood with their claws. Then they spread out all along the **walls** of the city, ready to attack. The city sounded an alarm.

CLANG CLANG!

CLANG CLANG!

CLANG CLANG!





Hercule and I sped to the mouseum, where we safely restored the **STONE OF FIRE**. In the meantime, Bluster Conjurat, the city's **SHAMAN** (the real one!) announced that he would use *powerful magic* to make our enemies flee. But he was always making **big promises** that he didn't keep, so no one believed him.

At the same time, the village leader, **Ernest Heftymouse**, led the defense





operations. Two mice carried him around the city in a litter made of a **HUGE** tortoise shell.

“Ready the **STINKOSAURUSES**! Prepare the itching powder! Fill the catapults!”

The **WILD FELINE WARRIORS** charged over our city walls, but our rodent army was ready for them.

First, they used catapults to **HURL** buckets of disgusting brown sludge at the tigers.

“Yuck!” roared the tigers.

Then the balloonosauruses flew overhead, and the cavemice





showered our enemies with **itching powder** made from stinging nettles.

“It itches!” yelled the tigers, scratching themselves furiously.

Finally, the stinkosauruses sprayed the invaders with their **smelly** spray.

“Aaahhh!” screeched the tigers. They turned and **ran** from the city with their tails between their legs. The city’s super stinky defense was a success!



Uh-oh!

Charge!

Courage,
felines!



Mud incoming!

Take that!

Not stinkosauruses!

VICTORY!

The tigers **FLED** and didn't look back. The rodent army let out a cheer.

"**WE WON!**"

"We're the strongest!"

"Long live the cavemice!"

I hurried to *The Stone Gazette* to quickly chisel the **NEWS**. When I got to the office, I ran into Thea, who was excited.

"Well done, Geronimo!" she *congratulated* me. "You got the **STONE OF FIRE** back from the tigers!"

"Yes," I replied *happily*. "Hercule and I returned it to the mouseum, where it's on display."



That night, the whole village celebrated with a great banquet of **cheese soup**, Greasella's fried **cheese nuggets**, and roasted meat with **cheese sauce**.

YUM, what a delicious prehistoric feast!


What a great party!



At the end of the meal, the village musicians began to **PLAY** their wooden and stone instruments. Everyone jumped up and **danced** in a line around the table.

It was a wild Stone Age party!

Unfortunately, Chattina Heftymouse, the **wife** of the village leader, sat down next to me. For the rest of the banquet she **TALKED** nonstop.



That's my soup,
you sneaky-saurus!

Burp!

A steak
for me!

It's all because of me!

It is, sweetie!

Fresh cheesy food!



PREHISTORIC MANNERS

(FOR CAVEMICE ONLY)

At the table, you must:

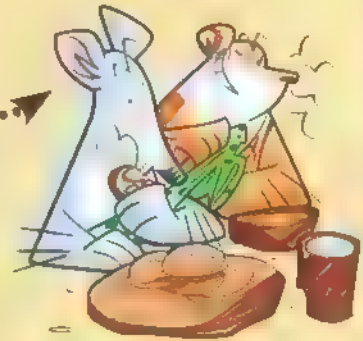
BURP AT THE END
OF THE MEAL.



BLOW YOUR NOSE
IN YOUR NAPKIN.



WIPE YOUR DIRTY PAWS ON
YOUR NEIGHBOR'S SHIRT.



NOISILY SLURP UP
YOUR SOUP.



REMEMBER TO SPIT
OUT THE BONES.





“This victory is all thanks to my dear Ernest!” she said proudly. “Then again, it’s thanks to me, too. I’m the one who gave him such good *advice*.”

A few seats down, Bluster Conjurat, the shaman, stared into his bowl of **cheese** soup.

“I see . . . I see . . . that we have won the battle, but not the war,” he muttered

GLOOMILY. “Tiger Khan and his Saber-Toothed Squad will soon return to attack us!”

“Ernest and I agree,” said Chattina, holding up a piece of meat as if it were a club. “These **TIGERS** will surely try to steal one of our wonderful inventions again.”



Chattina Heftymouse



“Speaking of **INVENTIONS**,” interrupted Fern Fossilfur, the mouseum director, “I have an important announcement to make! Thanks to two brave citizens of our village, the **STONE OF FIRE** has been returned to the mouseum!”

“**Ooooooh!**” everyone exclaimed.

“I’d like to thank the two **HEROES** who faced countless dangers to return it to us,” she continued. “Hercule and Geronimo!”

Everyone at the banquet burst into cheers and applause.





In the end, it all turned out for the best — at least this time. But here in the **STONE AGE**, life can be as hard as a block of petrified cheddar! I'll be on the lookout for my next **ADVENTURE**, or I'm not

**GERONIMO STILTONOOT,
CAVEMOUSE!**

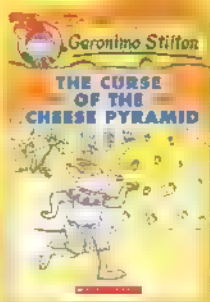




Be sure to read all my fabumouse adventures!



#1 Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye



#2 The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid



#3 Cat and Mouse in a Haunted House



#4 I'm Too Fond of My Fur!



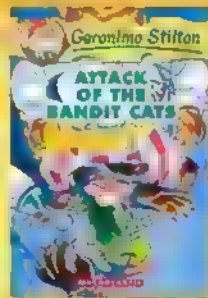
#5 Four Mice Deep in the Jungle



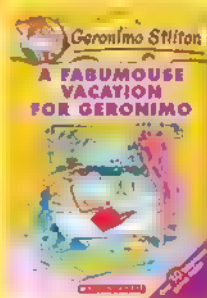
#6 Paws Off, Cheddarface!



#7 Red Pizzas for a Blue Count



#8 Attack of the Bandit Cats



#9 A Fabumouse Vacation for Geronimo



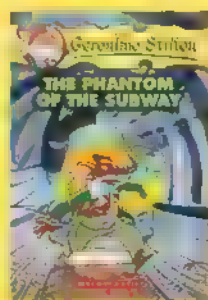
#10 All Because of a Cup of Coffee



#11 It's Halloween, You 'Fraidy Mouse!



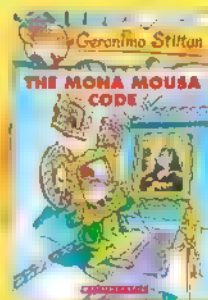
#12 Merry Christmas, Geronimo!



#13 The Phantom of the Subway



#14 The Temple of the Ruby of Fire



#15 The Mona Mousa Code



#16 A Cheese-Colored Camper



#17 Watch Your Whiskers, Stilton!



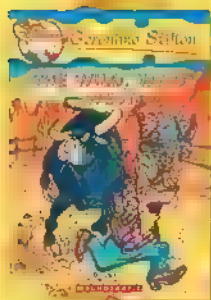
#18 Shipwreck on the Pirate Islands



#19 My Name Is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton



#20 Surf's Up, Geronimo!



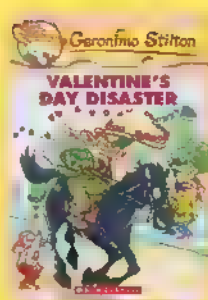
#21 The Wild, Wild West



#22 The Secret of Cacklefur Castle



A Christmas Tale



#23 Valentine's Day Disaster



#24 Field Trip to Niagara Falls



#25 The Search for Sunken Treasure



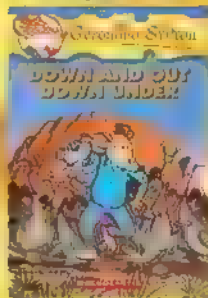
#26 The Mummy with No Name



#27 The Christmas Toy Factory



#28 Wedding Crasher



#29 Down and Out Down Under



#30 The Mouse Island Marathon



#31 The Mysterious Cheese Thief



Christmas Catastrophe



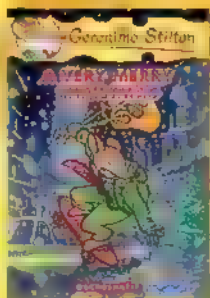
#32 Valley of the Giant Skeletons



#33 Geronimo and the Gold Medal Mystery



#34 Geronimo Stilton, Secret Agent



#35 A Very Merry Christmas



#36 Geronimo's Valentine



#37 The Race Across America



#38 A Fabumouse School Adventure



#39 Singing Sensation



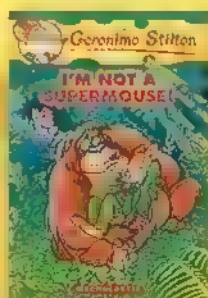
#40 The Karate Mouse



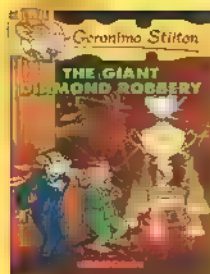
#41 Mighty Mount Kilimanjaro



#42 The Peculiar Pumpkin Thief



#43 I'm Not a Supermouse!



#44 The Giant Diamond Robbery



#45 Save the White Whale!



#46 The Haunted Castle



#47 Run for the Hills, Geronimo!



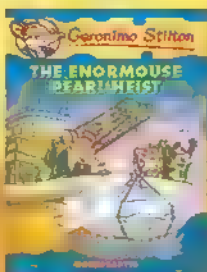
#48 The Mystery in Venice



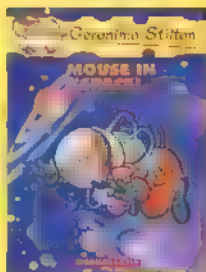
#49 The Way of the Samurai



#50 This Hotel Is Haunted



#51 The Enormouse Pearl Heist



#52 Mouse in Space!



#53 Rumble in the Jungle



#54 Get into Gear, Stilton!



#55 The Golden Statue Plot



#56 Flight of the Red Bandit



The Hunt for the Golden Book



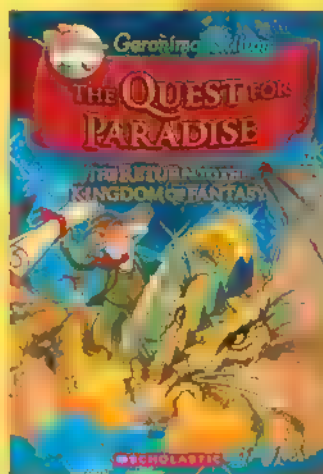
#57 The Stinky Cheese Vacation



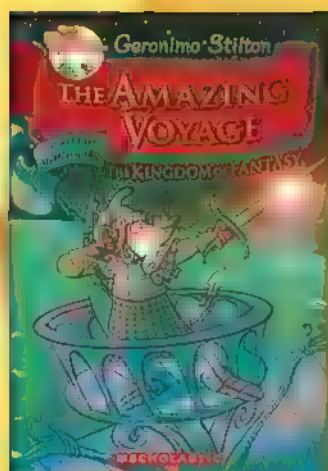
Be sure
to read all
my adventures
in the Kingdom
of Fantasy!



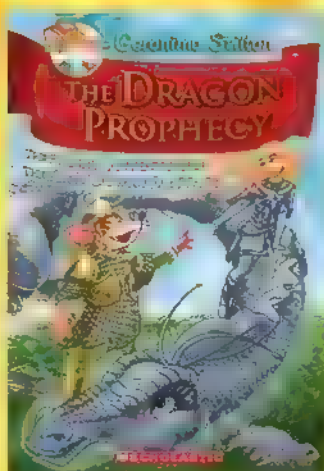
THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



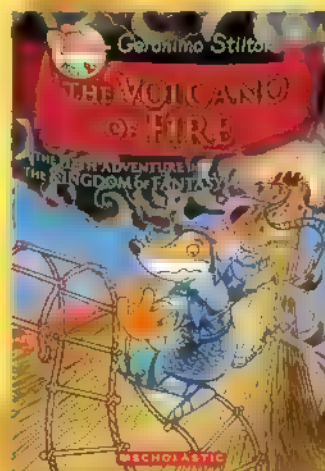
THE QUEST FOR
PARADISE:
THE RETURN TO THE
KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE AMAZING
VOYAGE:
THE THIRD ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



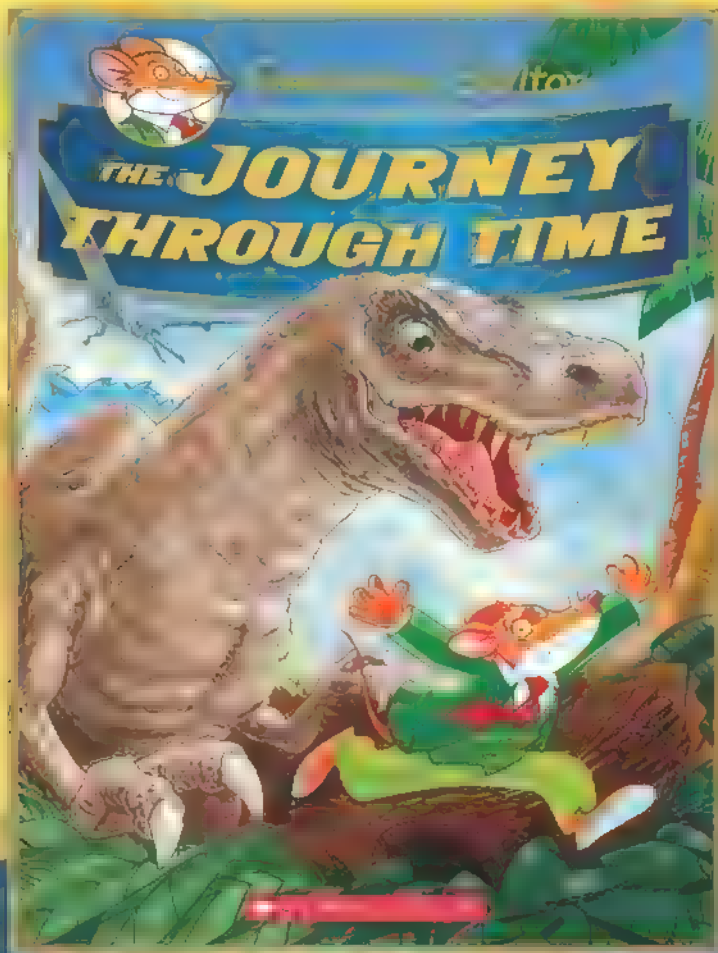
THE DRAGON
PROPHECY:
THE FOURTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



THE VOLCANO
OF FIRE:
THE FIFTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



Join me and my friends on
a journey through time in
this very special edition!



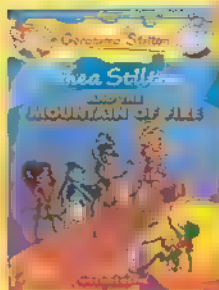
THE JOURNEY
THROUGH TIME



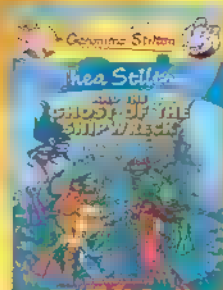
**Don't miss
these exciting
Thea Sisters
adventures!**



**Thea Stilton and the
Dragon's Code**



**Thea Stilton and the
Mountain of Fire**



**Thea Stilton and the
Ghost of the Shipwreck**



**Thea Stilton and the
Secret City**



**Thea Stilton and the
Mystery in Paris**



**Thea Stilton and the
Cherry Blossom Adventure**



**Thea Stilton and the
Star Castaways**



**Thea Stilton: Big Trouble
in the Big Apple**



**Thea Stilton and the
Ice Treasure**



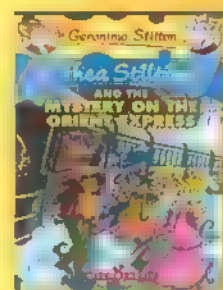
**Thea Stilton and the
Secret of the Old Castle**



**Thea Stilton and the
Blue Scarab Hunt**



**Thea Stilton and the
Prince's Emerald**



**Thea Stilton and the Mystery
on the Orient Express**



**Thea Stilton and the
Dancing Shadows**



**Thea Stilton and the
Legend of the Fire
Flowers**



**Thea Stilton and the
Spanish Dance Mission**



**Thea Stilton and the
Journey to the Lion's Den**



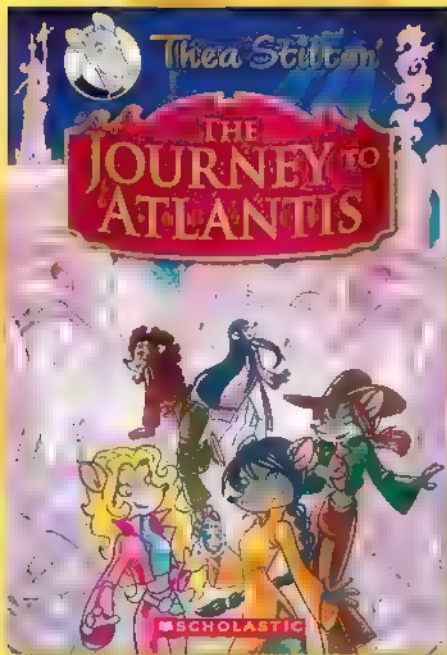
**Thea Stilton and the
Great Tulip Heist**



**Thea Stilton and the
Chocolate Sabotage**



Check out
these very
special editions
featuring me
and the Thea
Sisters!



THE JOURNEY
TO ATLANTIS



THE SECRET OF
THE FAIRIES

Meet GERONIMO STILTONix



He is a spacemouse — the Geronimo Stilton of a parallel universe! He is captain of the spaceship MouseStar 1. While flying through the cosmos, he visits distant planets and meets crazy aliens. His adventures are out of this world!



#1 Alien Escape

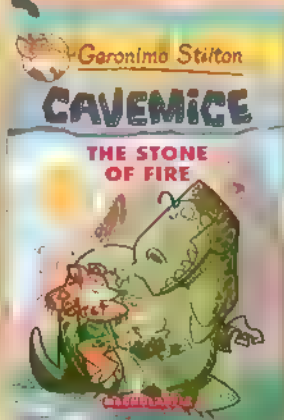


#2 You're Mine, Captain!

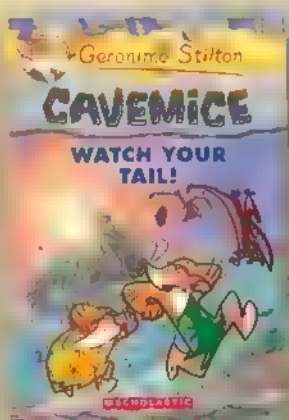


Meet **GERONIMO STILTONOOT**

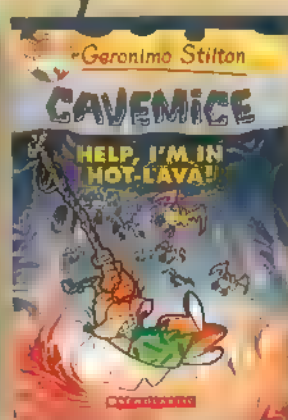
He is a cavemouse — Geronimo Stilton's ancient ancestor! He runs the stone newspaper in the prehistoric village of Old Mouse City. From dealing with dinosaurs to dodging meteorites, his life in the Stone Age is full of adventure!



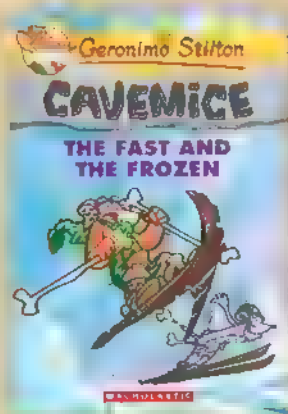
#1 The Stone of Fire



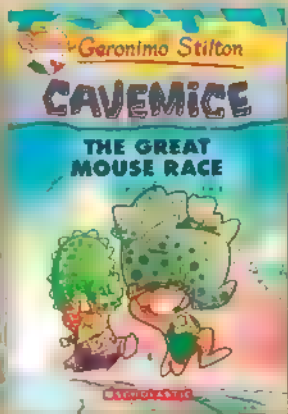
#2 Watch Your Tail!



#3 Help, I'm in Hot Lava!



#4 The Fast and the Frozen



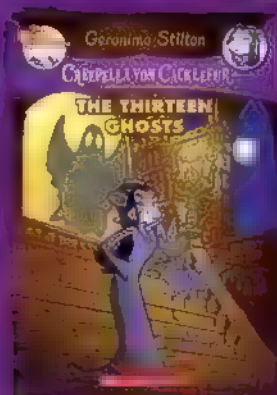
#5 The Great Mouse Race



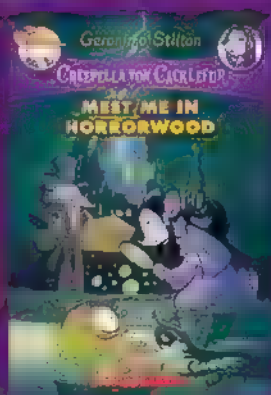
Meet

CREEPELLA VON CACKLEFUR

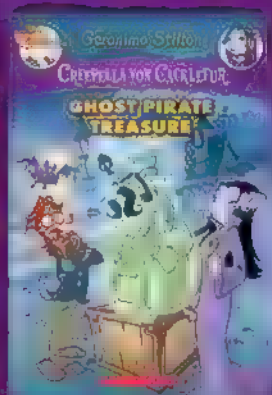
I, *Geronimo Stilton*, have a lot of mouse friends, but none as **spooky** as my friend **CREEPELLA VON CACKLEFUR**! She is an enchanting and **MYSTERIOUS** mouse with a pet bat named **Bitewing**. **YIKES!** I'm a real 'fraidy mouse, but even I think **CREEPELLA** and her family are **AWFULLY** fascinating. I can't wait for you to read all about **CREEPELLA** in these **fa-mouse-ly funny** and **spectacularly spooky** tales!



#1 The Thirteen Ghosts



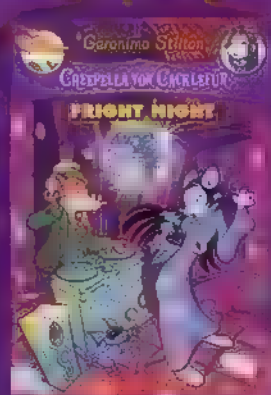
#2 Meet Me in Horrorwood



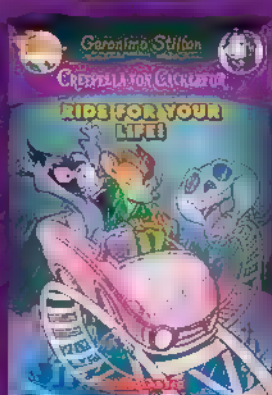
#3 Ghost Pirate Treasure



#4 Return of the Vampire



#5 Fright Night



#6 Ride for Your Life

Old Mouse City

(MOUSE ISLAND)

THE CAVE OF
MEMORIES

GOSSIP
RADIO

THE STONE
GAZETTE

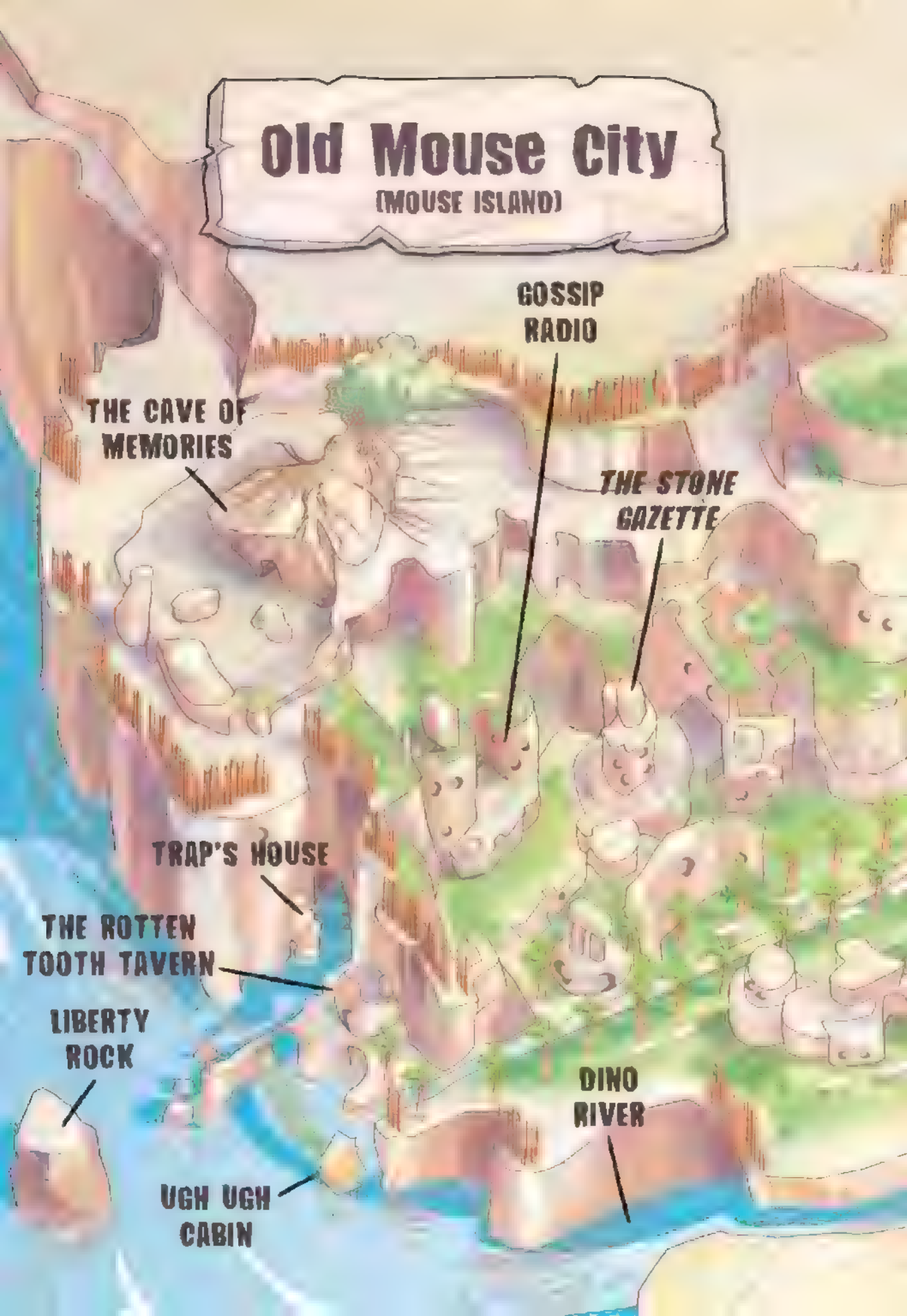
TRAP'S HOUSE

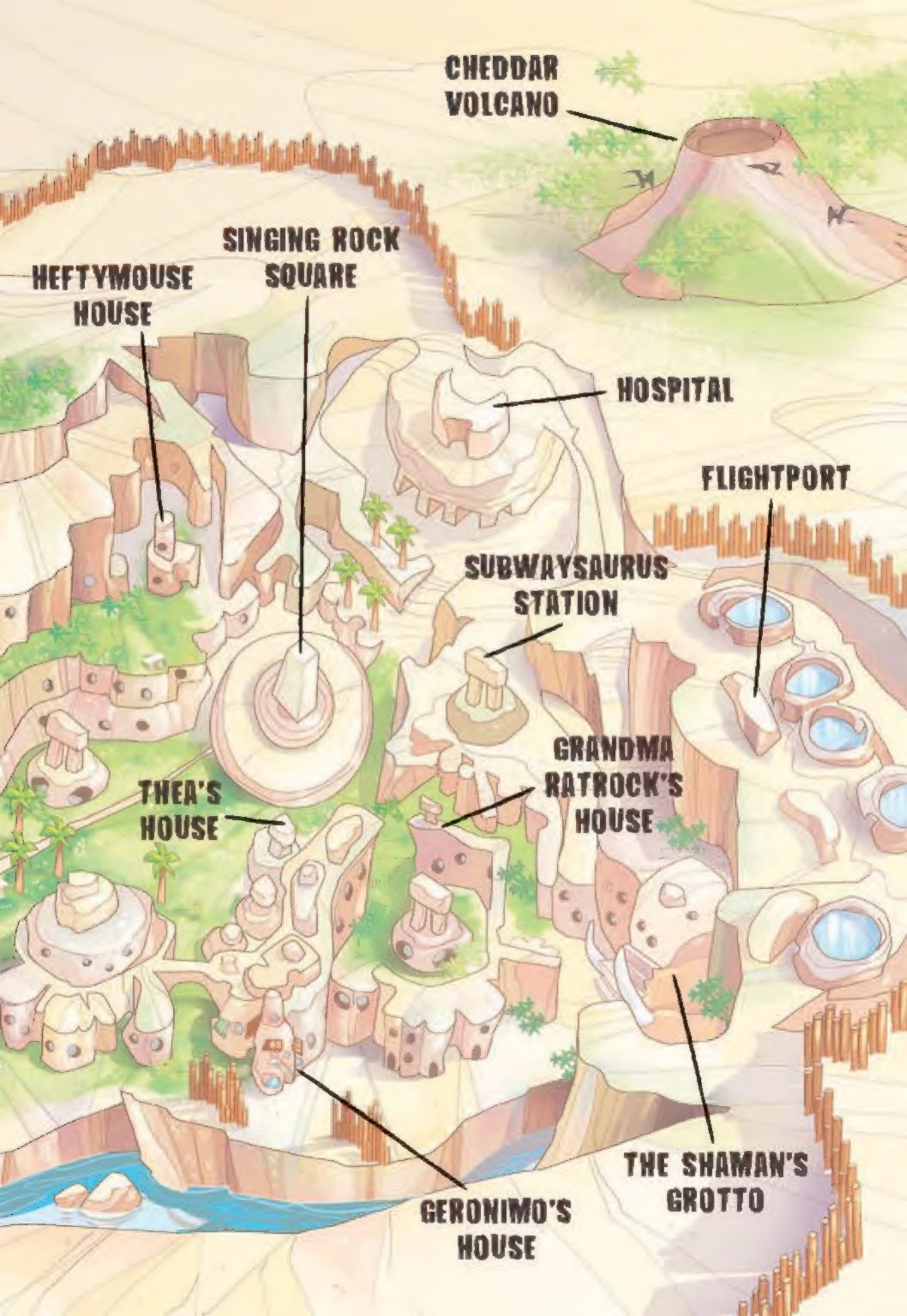
THE ROTTEN
TOOTH TAVERN

LIBERTY
ROCK

UGH UGH
CABIN

DINO
RIVER





**CHEDDAR
VOLCANO**

**SINGING ROCK
SQUARE**

**HEFTYMOUSE
HOUSE**

HOSPITAL

FLIGHTPORT

**SUBWAYSaurus
STATION**

**THEA'S
HOUSE**

**GRANDMA
RATROCK'S
HOUSE**

**GERONIMO'S
HOUSE**

**THE SHAMAN'S
GROTTO**

**DEAR MOUSE FRIENDS,
THANKS FOR READING,
AND GOOD-BYE UNTIL
THE NEXT BOOK!**



WHO IS GERONIMO STILTONOOT?



He is a cavemouse — Geronimo Stilton's ancient ancestor! He runs the stone newspaper in the prehistoric village of Old Mouse City. From dealing with dinosaurs to dodging meteorites, his life in the Stone Age is full of adventure!

THE STONE OF FIRE

Old Mouse City is in an uproar. The most precious artifact in the mouseum — the Stone of Fire — has been stolen! Geronimo Stiltonoot and his cavemouse friend Hercule Poirat are on the case. It's up to them to retrieve the stone from the ferocious Tiger Khan and his band of fearsome felines!



 **SCHOLASTIC**

www.scholastic.com/geronimostilton



More leveling information for this book:
www.scholastic.com/readinglevel